agr Ina

ORANGE JUDD
EDITOR
—OF—
Orange Judd
Farmer.
308-316 Dearborn St., CHICAGO, ILL.

THE
AMERICAN
AGRICULTURIST.

DESIGNED TO IMPROVE

The Farmer, Gardener, Fruit Grower, Planter, Stock Breeder, &c.

"AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN."—Washington.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M..........................Editor and Proprietor.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

VOLUME FIFTEEN.---FOR THE YEAR 1856.

PUBLISHED BY
ORANGE JUDD, 191 WATER-STREET,
NEW-YORK.

SMITHSONIAN
LIBRARY

630.573
Agr. Ind.
165767

INDEX TO VOL. XV.

A.

Acknowledgments..........283
Acorns—Oils from.......... 13
Advertising..........113—189—284
Age—An.......... 21
Agricultural Exhibitions.......28—60—271
Agricultural Exhibitions—Hints on getting up..........229
“ Chemistry—Principles.... 32
“ College—Ohio.......... 3
“ Fair—A German.......... 61
“ Journals Noticed....75, 211
“ Machinery now and then..173
“ “ New-Hampshire, 94
“ “ United States.80-123
“ “ Exh'n at Boston. 51
“ Society—N.Y. State,70,98*
“ Patents.......... 63
Agriculture and the Government...... 28
“ Capital in.......... 127
“ Principles of Practical.... 32
“ Right Views of.......... 8
“ Year Book of.......... 70
Air necessary for Decomposition...... 53
Always be Polite.......... 46
American Herd-Book.......... 8—113
Animal or Plant.......... 4
Animals—Language of.......... 14
Ants—Expelling, Trapping, &c... 64—249
Apple—An Amateur's First.......... 42
“ Jelly.......... 10
Apples and Pears—Ripening of.......... 12
“ “ Gathering.......... 67
“ Best Kinds for Cultivation.152—301
“ Keeping Frozen.......... 67
Apple Trees—Planting.......... 91
“ “ Blooming for 59 years....302
“ Worm or Codling Moth..........254
April Work for Females..........146
Apology—An..........188
Asparagus—Culture......127, 130, 161, 233
“ Fall Treatment of..........305
“Ax to Grind”—Origin of..........187

B.

Bacon—Curing without Smoke.......... 57
“Baker's Dozen”..........333
Barley—Cultivation..........155
Barn Buildings—A Yankee's Views on.279
“ Cellars..........251
Barns—Yellow Wash for..........155
Bathing and Swimming.......... 16
Beasts that Perish.......... 62
Bed-quilts—A Chapter on..........116
Beef—Cutting up and Retailing, Illus. 52
Bee-hive—Peeps into a..........131
Bee-moths—Destroying.......... 86
Bees—Errors of Am. Inst. Trans......154
“ How are your?..........100*
“ Practical Hints on Wintering...323
Beets—Baking.......... 78
“ Grafting.......... 20
“ Sugar..........104*
Beets in the Garden..........184
Begonias..........116
Bible—Analysis of..........240
Birds—Ingenuity of..........227
“ More about Sparing..........279
“ Nest Pie..........186
“ Poisoned by Painted Cages.....235
“ Sight of..........135
Bird Law—Tim Bunker on..........197
Blackberry—New-Rochelle or Lawton, 257
“ Culture, [illus.] &c..257, 258
“ Vines killed in Kentucky, 206
Blood as a Manure..........347
Bodies—Taking Care of our.......... 87
Boys—Honor Among..........187
Book-farming—Will it Pay?..........101
Books on Agriculture..........292
Book-notices..........8, 70, 140, 234, &c.
Bone-dust, &c.—Trials of.......... 98
Boys help yourselves..........136
“ Something for.......... 93
Bobolink—The..........186
Boston Horse Race..........325
Bread—Apple.......... 37
Bread from Grown Wheat.......... 59
Breeding Animals.......... 57
Broom Corn Items..........5, 78
Broom Corn—A Great Crop.......... 56
Broth—Dry..........113
Brush Swamps..........98*
Buckwheat Cakes.......... 56
“ as a Green Crop..........244
“ with Corn..........250
“ Porridge.......... 62
Bucks County, (Pa.)—Corn, &c. in....153
Builders of Suburban Villages—Hits at.181
Bulbs—Flowering—Direc. for Growing, 281
Burdock and Violet..........151

C.

Cabbage—Early.......... 17
“ Large Jersey..........247
Cabbage Crop..........184
Cake—White, &c..........126
Calendar of Operations—May, 171; June, 194; July, 218; Aug. 242; Sept. 266; Oct. 290; Nov. 314; Dec. 341.
Camellias at Flushing..........103*
Camellias—Selecting and Cultivating..102*
Camels for United States Army..........196
Canada Thistles..........28, 34
Cancerene..........113
Candles—To make Lard and Tallow. 101*
Capital invested in Poor Soils..........268
Card of Messrs. Allen & Co..........128
Carnations—Impregnation of.......... 64
Carrots for Poultry.......... 53
“ Horses..........113
Cattle—A Good Place for..........323
“ Althea (illustrated).......... 13
“ American Herd-book, Vol. III.320
“ Astoria (illustrated)..........228
“ Barbarism of the Farm..........132
“ Bloody Murrain and Scours... 4
“ Breeding.......... 33
“ Cheats in Stock.......... 27
“ Choking..........296, 327
“ Comet (illustrated)..........204
“ Cows holding up Milk..........203
“ Cows Kicking Prevented...... 18
“ “ Milk Fever....178, 204, 347
“ Cows Difference in..........228
“ Death among.......... 13
“ Fairy [illustrated]..........205
“ Fattening..........103
“ From Texas.......... 3
“ Highflyer [illustrated].......... 84
“ Horns—Shaping.......... 37
“ L. G. Morris'—Sale of..........223
“ Lord Vane Tempest, illust....252
“ Mr. Thorne's importation of... 76
“ Prince George of Cambridge, illustrated.......... 33
“ Regularity in Feeding.......... 56
“ Thorough Bred—Why Best.... 80
“ Watering..........17, 101*
Cauliflower—Early Alma..........331
“ Poetry..........305
Celery—How to Keep in Winter..........331
“ Stewed.......... 85
Cellars—Look well to..........104*
Cemeteries—Rural..........293
Cheese-making—Farmer's Wife on....204
Chiccory—Is it a Bad Weed?..........132
Children—Teach to Love Nature......216
Church—High or Low..........298
Cider—Hard..........301
Cisterns and Cistern Building..........280
Clay for Light Land.......... 56
Clerk and the Plow-boy..........135
Climate—Differences in..........150
Clover—Plowing in..........221
“ Red—Is it Injurious to Horses?.101
Clover for Manure—Why, When, How.172
“ Seed Crop.......... 70
Coal Ashes..........100*, 104
Cochineal..........133
Cockroaches—Destroying..........278
Coffee—Cost and Culture..........158
Colds.......... 38
Corn and Millet for Fodder..........218
Corn—Gourd seed variety at the South.175
“ Planting—Late Season..........172
Corn—Experiments; Premiums for...201
“ Carrying in Russia.......... 59
“ Crop in Virginia.......... 77
“ Feeding in the Ear.......... 13
“ Pudding—Boiled..........322
“ Save Seed Carefully..........297
“ Seed to suit Climate..........102
“ Starting Early and Protecting..199
“ Principal Varieties..........202
“ Shocking.......... 18
“ Shortening in..........297
“ “Some”.......... 53
“ Stalks—Stacking.......... 10
“ “ Value for Feeding.....327
“ Wyandott..........6, 132, 344
Corns on the Toes..........138, 188
Correspondents—To..........212, 356
Cotton Crop in Mississippi.......... 6
Cranberry Cultivation..........19, 39
Crocus..........282
Crops—Extracts from Correspondents.235
Crow—Our.......... 3
Crown Imperials..........282
Cultivation—Economic.......... 35
Curculio—Again Exterminated..........233
“ Lime and Sulphur for...... 20
“ Premiums..........209
“ Smoked out at Last..........256
Currants—A Chapter on.......... 31
“ Improved..........256
“ How to Raise..........304

D.

Dahlia Growers—A Boon for.......... 92
Diary of the 14th Century—A Lady's.. 15
Dioscorea Batatas..........137
“ Illustrated..........348
Dog-breaking..........200
Dogs and other Pets in New-York....151
Do Something.......... 16
Draining—What it Did.......... 30
Drowning Persons—Restoring.....37, 246
Dyelytra Spectabalis..........162

E.

Eating and Sleeping.......... 60
Earth—Beauty of..........186
Echo answer Questions..........264
Economy—A Stroke of..........125
Editors Farm Notes, 2, 221, 249, 273, 297 325.
Egg Plant..........185
Eggs—Drying..........296
“ Poaching.......... 78
“ Preserving and Marketing...... 77
“ Testing.......... 3
Eloquent Extract..........102
Encouraging..........125
Endorsed—Not.......... 3
Evergreen—Plant an..........147
“ Shrubbery..........247
“ Trees attended to..........232
Exchanges..........3, 75
Exhibition—Agricultural of N. J......212
Exhibitions—Agricultural, 1857. Illustrated..........320, 324
“ Lists of for 1856....199, 223, 229, 247, 272, 277, 296.
“ Connecticut State.....3, 283

F.

Fair—Ladies at the.......... 14
Fall Plowing and Spading..........54, 316
Farm—To My Sisters Upon..........174
Farm and Garden of Amos Briggs.... 25
“ The Great Statesman's.......... 7
“ True Value of.......... 36
“ Uncle Sam's.......... 15
“ Work Getting Easier..........101*
Farmer—The Oldest in the World..... 6
Farmers—Bargains and Trading...... 11
Farmer's Boys—A Story for.......... 46
“ Clubs—Value, &c..........317
“ Fix up your Homes..........100*
“ The Future.......... 36
“ Hints on Fencing.......... 17
“ Sons and Daughters—Education Compared..........331
“ Wife; Which of the Two?.. 44
Farming—Does it Pay?..........227
“ in Connecticut..........100*
“ “ Maine..........323
February—Calendar for.......... 97*
Female Jockeys.......... 79
Females May Work for..........170
Fencing..........129
Fertilizers for Corn—Premiums for experiments with..........178
Field Book—Notes From Our.......... 65
Figures about New-York State.......102*
“ Important..........103
Fires—How to Avoid..........355
Fish Applied to Growing Crops..........243
Fish Pie or Fish Manure..........273
“ Ponds for Country Places..........134
Fish Manures..........280
Flax Cotton.......... 54
Flower Garden—Winter Preparation..330
Flowers in Winter..........162
Folding Ladder. Illustrated.......... 64
Food—Ground and Unground.......... 65
Fortune Knocks Once.......... 45
Fruit Tree—Set Out Once..........182
Fruit, Fallen—Take Care of..........254
“ One Way to Dry.......... 6
“ Improvement in..........139
“ Raising Profitable.......... 66
“ Trees—Hints on Setting....129, 157
“ Yard—Autumn—Work in....... 20
Furniture.......... 10

G.

Garden—Cheap Watering & Manuring, 209
“ Laying out..........160
“ Notes—From our.......... 41
“ Seat—Thoughts on my....... 86
“ Seeds—Pure.......... 27
“ Soils..........99*
Gardening by the Inexperienced......103*
“ in Virginia..........68*
Gardens and Flowers..........207
“ What a small one Produced..352
Genealogical..........259
Gentleman—The True Poetry.......... 45
Glass Stoppers—To Loosen.......... 8
Goats—Cashmere. Illustrated..........345
“ Maltese.......... 10
Good Investment.......... 18
Gooseberries and Currants..........114
Grafting Old Trees.......... 20
Grain—Cutting Early..........128
“ for France.......... 99
Granaries.......... 77
Grape Growing..........283, 302
“ Vine—Roots vs. Cuttings.......115
Grapes—Concord..........329
“ Dr. Underhill's..........331
“ in New York.......... 44
“ not Ripening Well.......... 20
“ under Glass—Will they Pay? 330
Graperies—About Attics..........302. 303
Grass.......... 59
“ and Grain—Cutting Early. 253
“ Bear.......... 39
Grasses—Questions about..........153
Grasshopper Traps.......... 10
“ Where they come from..203
Grave—The Little Winter..........211
Grease—About..........133
Grease—To Extract From Cloth....188
Growing Corn—A Lesson.......... 249
Guano and Stable Manure..........129
“ Facts about..........104
“ in Hill, and no Paper..........220
“ Recent Experiments on Grass..196
“ Sprinkler.......... 27
“ Trade of Baltimore..........131
Gum Arabic..........355

H.

Hallowell, Me.—Farming in.......65, 223
Hams—To cure..........28, 86

INDEX.

Hams—Canvas Bags for................188
Harvest—A Golden.................... 50
Hassocks or Bogs—Removing......... 4
Hasty Pudding—Barlow's Poem—illus.270
" How to make.........305
Hay Caps..........................196
" Putting Lime into................296
" Second Crop..................... 35
Heaves—A Horse with................299
" Corn Stalks for..............155
Hedges—How to Cut.................. 58
Hiccup............................ 83
Hoarding and Enjoying.............. 21
Hogs—Fattening 56, 300
" Management of..............58, 66
" Population of Cincinnati........ 11
" Suffolk 84
" Trade for 1855..................154
Honey 65
" King—The........................332
Hoosung............................ 41
Horse Shoeing 133
" Story—A......................... 94
Horses—A Chapter on Watering......299
" Cheap Food for..............125
" Check Rein...................103
" Feed for—What Stage Companies Prefer.................179
" Hair Oil for..................248
" Influenza in...................138
" Justin Morgan—illustrated....349
" Poll Evil in...................221
" Protection from Flies........ 5
" Scratches in..................296
" Staggers in.................... 63
" Stabling and Feeding.........155
" Tea for Sick...................276
" Their Cruel Treatment......346
" To Make a Balky one Draw.178
Horticultural Society of Brooklyn...... 91
" " New-York 19
Household Matters...............37, 129
Housekeeper Perplexed—Poetry....... 21
Housekeepers—Hints for.............. 17
Humbugs—A Two Cent Shave, &c....270
Husk Beds.......................... 87
Hyacinths..........................282
Hybridizing Plants..........197, 198, 233

I.

Ice-houses—How to Build &c..10, 100, 319
" Filling........................340
I did as the rest did................. 355
Idler................................ 21
Illinois Agricultural Products......... 29
Illinois Central R. R. Lands...........283
Independence about our...............128
Indian's Letter........................151
Inquiries—Answers to.................104*
Insects—Combativeness of.............220
" Destroying Injurious.........304
Irrigation............................198
It is Said—Sundrics..................296

J.

Jackets—Whipping......................307
Jelly-cake 78
Jethro Tull...........................245
Johnson, Jas. W. F.—Death of......... 27

K.

Kitchen Garden—Things still to be Sown..........................259

L.

Lambs on Trees, Fevers, &c......149, 180
" Winter Management of......... 55
Land—Economy in use of..............206
Lawns—Dirctions for dressing........205
Leaves for Litter..................... 69
" To take Impressions of. 64
Lettuce—Cultivation of................ 43
Lice on Plants........................160
Licorice—Will it grow in New England..............................149
Lightning Rods—How to Construct....321
Lillies—Candidum, Tiger, &c.........282
Little Thing—Importance of a.........298
Ling—Chinese, Illustrated.............229
" Things........................ 16
Log Houses..........................247
Love Letter—A Floral................ 45
Lucerne........................177, 196

M.

Mailing Agriculturist—Not Irregular...260
Manures—Fall Treatment..............326
Manure—Absorbents...................196
" Advantages of Keeping Covered...........................219
" Errors in Composting........103
" Heaps.......................... 89
" Value of high-priced Fertilizers 230
" Yard, one way to Construct.. 40
Manures—Artificial, tested by Chemistry...............................350
" Keep out Weed Seeds.......327
" Waste of..................79, 92
Marriage—Getting ready for...........211
Marshes—Reclaiming Salt.........298, 322
Matches Poisonous—A Warning.......220
Meadows—Improving, &c.............. 26
" Old 5
Meat—Preserving..................92, 120
Meats—Cooking....................... 37
Mice—Ravages of.................206, 352
Mice vs. Apple Trees—What shall be done................................318
Milk for Children 93, 117
Milking by Machinery.................345
" Frequent.....................205
Milkmen—Important to...............223
Millet..........................133, 175
" Experience in Raising.......203, 295
Minnesota—From..................... 63
Mississippi Corn Ahead............... 99
Mississippi—Trip to.................. 49
Molasses—Boiling.....................203
Mother—One's........................216
Mowing Machines—Trial of Draft.223, 245
" " vs. Scythes........148
Muck Ashes.......................... 53
" Beds—Hunt up the............. 27
" Manual......................... 8
" More about 51
" Value of, Treatment............275
Mules vs. Horses..................... 8
Mushrooms—How to grow............. 62
Musketoes............................ 16
Mutton Markets...................... 99

N.

Nasturtiums vs. Cucumbers............184
Neighbors keep an eye on............168
Nest in the Honey Suckle............. 94
New Jersey—To the People of......... 89
New York—Country Residences near..224
Nobleman and the Cow-boy........... 38

O.

Oats—Ground........................ 89
October—Hints for................... 19
" Isssue—Our.................. 28
Okra.................................184
Onions—Wethersfield in Danger...... 27
Onions—Mahomet's Dislike to........ 21
" R. I. Statement...............150
Orchard—Sowing Grain in.............156
Order—Some Thoughts on.............306
Osage Orange Seed...................151
Ourselves—A Word for................236
Oxen vs. Horses...................... 36
Ox—How to Make the Most of.... ..154
Ox—Moving a Sullen.................. 88

P.

Paint—How to Clean.................. 37
Painting and Papering—Mrs. Brown's.210
" Farm Implements.......... 88
Paints—Preparing 85
Parlor Plants.........................232
Parsley—Winter...................... 63
Pasturage for Dry Weather............194
Peaches—Carpenter's White...........331
" Dried and Pickled..... ..9, 10
Peach Orchard—A Long Island.... ...250
Pea—Produce of a Single.............. 29
" The Oregon....................... 29
Peas and Potatoes for Hogs........... 36
Peas—Editor's Experiments with new Varieties............................268
Pear Culture by Dr. L. B...........328, 353
" " Progress in................ 67
" Question—The Dwarf..........41, 69
" Trees—Winter Treatment of dwarf...........................328
" " Hastening................130
" " Pruning for Standards....158
" " Why don't we set out....139
Pears for Vicinity of Philadelphia..... 41
" Market........................ 90
" Winter Keeping.. 353
" $4,356 worth on an Acre........100
Peat—Marsh Mud, &c.................149
Peppermint—Raising...............40, 98
Peppers..............................301
Personal Habits—Hints on............ 32
Pig—Kissing a........................ 44
Pigs—One of the... 45
Pipes—Cement for Water.............104*
" Iron and Lead................ 88
Plants—Natural vs. Chemical analysis.295
" New.........................353
Plots—Small—To Cultivators of......104*
Plum—New Method of Perpetuating.114
" Trees—Selection ; how to Cultivate.............................114
Plums—American in England.........158
" Raising...................... 90
" To Preserve.................. 9
Poetry Sobered Down.................211
Political Article—[not a] Foreigners and Natives—Illustrated..................180
Pomological Society—American...186, 319
Popular Definitions.................. 38
Pork Packing—A Hint................ 28
Pork Trade of the West...............188
Portrait—A Lawyer's..................351
Potato Bread—Good and Profitable...103*
Potatoes—One Way to Get Early......182
" Digging Machine............ 85
" Best Mode of Saving.......327
" Black Mercers...............347
" Butt Ends vs. Seed Ends....136
" Harvesting.............276, 301
" How Planted in N. J.......198
" Large vs. Small........64, 221
" New Chinese................137
" " Illustrated.............348
" Sweet 9, 39, 82
" Salt for......................172
" Sweet Cultivation of at the North..........................183
Poultry—Brama Pootras.............. 12
" Chronicle.................... 2
" How to Send to Market......294
" Lady's Experience with....210
" Plucking Feathers...........153
" Relic of the Past, Illustrated.276
" Society, New York State....101*
" Some Thoughts on Hens....113
" Winter Care of...............348
Prairie Investment................... 12
Preserves............................ 63
Preserving Apples..................... 37
" Cans..........................233
" Fruits....................9, 255
" Plants in Winter.......... 68
Professorship—That 307
Pruning Fruit Trees...................156
Puddings—Boiled Corn................332
" Hasty—Barlow's Poem, Ill..277
" Suet..........................283
" Unique........................ 62
Pumpkin—Bitter................76, 132
Pumpkin—Drying..................... 9
Pumps—Chain Illustrated............ 54
Purslain..............................256

Q.

Quails—Spare the.....................149
Queen's Mews or Stables............. 5
Quick Work.......................... 37

R.

Rabbit Fancier....................... 8
Radishes—Good Ones at Little Cost...185
Radishes in March....................101*
" Long Scarlet................. 68
" not fit to eat.................209
Ramble—A Farmer's Rainy Day's.....349
Raspberries—A Couple of " Patches"..258
Rats—Novel Method of Expelling....211
Rattle Snake Bite Cured..............194
Reaper Case—Decision for Manny... 98*
Recipes—Fried Pudding—Green Corn Cake—Omelet—Creamed Pine Apple Baked Indian Pudding—Tomatoes, German Toast, &c........175, 234, 306
Records—Important to Farmers.......251
Register—Annual..................... 32
Retort—A Successful.................. 38
Retraction—A Punctuated.............274
Rhododendrons—Directions for Culture.185
Rhode Island Society, &c.............137
Rhubarb..............................305
" Those Pies......................152
Robin—A White....................... 16
Root Tops Valuable for Feeding.......295
Roots—Keeping in Winter.............331
Roses.................................122
" Directions to the Uninitiated.....98*
Ruta Bagas.......................79, 87
" A Chapter on...............219

S.

Sacked—Getting......................240
Salsify—Keeping of.. 353
Salsify or Oyster Plant—How to Grow..184
Salt Marshes—Answer to Inquiries....322
" " Experi'ts in Reclaiming, 321
" To Destroy Worms..............253
Salting Hay and Salting Stock........252
Salutatory...........................128
Sandy Soils—Improving..... 268
" Why Clay Benefits......294
Saw-dust for Bedding................. 61
Scales, Agricultural—Illustrated......273
Scars Still There.....................264
Scratching Pole.......................205
Sealing Wax for Cans................. 64
Seed Bed—Preparation of a...........182
Seed—Saving......................... 7
" Wanted.........................333
Seeds—Distribution of............305, 344
" Short Chapter on.............259
" Trials of.. 100
" Vitality of 12
Shade Trees for Citics.............. 66
" Setting, Selecting, &c.148, 316
Sheep—Crossing 13
" and Hogs—A Boy's Letter.....150
" Improved in New-Jersey......333
" Story......................... 21
" Wintering...............80, 325
Shirt—How to Cut.... 10
Shows of 1857—Critique..............342
Shrubbery—Evergreen and Deciduous.162
" Panting..................... 83
Silver Ware—Washing................ 26
Silvering Fluids and Powders........251
Sisters upon the Farm................163
Skins—Dressing with Wool on........340
Snails and Grubs—Catching..........103*
Snow—Benefits of.....................153
" Drops............................282
Sorghum or China Sugar Cane, 305,320,325 344.
Soap Making Explained...............174
Spade—Song of the. Poetry.......... 6
Spain vs. United States...............324
Spider—Loves of the.................. 14
Spring—Song for......................207
Squashes, Melons, &c.—How to Plant.183
Squash Bug—Description and Remedies..............................256
" Some......................... 63
Stable Book—The..................... 8
Starch—Salt in.......................151
Steam Engines for Farmers...........123
" Plow wanted on the Prairies...247
Stephen, &c.—Poetry................. 44
Stock—Look well to the.............. 55
" Raisers Arithmetic............ 45
Stone Walls and Fences—To Prevent Falling in Winter...............173, 321
Straw—Cutting for Ma[illegible]e.............. 89
Strawberry—After T[illegible]ment of......209
" Beds—[illegible]e Thousand....253
" Cultu[illegible] By Dr. Ward..159
" Fre[illegible].....................209
" G[illegible]ng—More about....281
" [illegible] Test for............305
" [illegible]aising...................124
Strychnine Antidotes..............212, 314
Stump Machines...................... 77
" Puller—A Novel................153
" " Willis', Illustrated....201
Subscribers—To our.................. 52
Subsoiling—Tim Bunker on...........276
Sugar Cane.......................... 91
" " Chinese. See Sorghum.
" Plant......................... 81
Suicide—Ways of Committing........ 40
Sulphur—Blight cured by.............303
Sun-flower or Helianthus............. 16
Super-phosphate—Manufacture of..... 37
Swamps—Draining and Reclaiming....298
Sweeny—Is it a Disease?.............155
Swine Fattening—Does it Pay?.......222
Systematic—Be....................... 31

T.

Taplin's Horse Power. Illustrated.... 53
Tennessee—Farm Lands in East......226
Texas—Hard Winter in................124
Tim Bunker going to the Fair..........296
" in Tall Clover............320
" on Horse Racing..........348
" " Moss Bunkers.........248
Tim Bunker's Views of the Bird Law..197
Tim Bunker, Esq., Described.........181
Thread—Value of a Pound of Linen.. 7
Tit for Tat........................... 45
Toast—A Comical..................... 66
Tobacco—Analysis 53
Tomatoes—Early.................104*, 123
" for Cows....................228
" Supporting & Shortening in,256
Toothache Remedy.................... 64
Tree Convention......................156
" Planting....................... 59
Trees—A New Wash for..............115
" Best Season for Transplanting.. 42
" Ornamental.................148
" Plant......................... 81
" The Beauty of................304
" When and how to set out....292
Trenching—What is? Illustrated......161
Truths Condensed.....................240
Tulips................................282
Turnip Growing—A Farmer's Experience................................199
Turnips Raised Cheap.................220
" Sown in August.............249
Types—A Word for....................234

U.

United States Agricultural Society....228
" Soil Products of for 1855. 227

V.

Vine Culture.. 115
" Dresser's Manual................ 8
" Wanted 133
Vinery................................ 15
Violet—Its Perfume...................135

W.

Walnut—California....................230
Warranted 355
Washing Preparation.................. 10
" Borax Recipe............... 76
Water—To make Hard Soft...........100
Water Pipes—How to Make.........173
Waterloo Correspondence, 29, 201, 280, 326
Watermelon—Butter 10
" Molasses.................102
Weeds—How to Plow Under 37
" in Pavements, &c., Destroying.................................259
Well Curb and Bucket—Illustrated.... 9
West—Eastern Farmers going to { 126, 176, 200, 224 }
" New Route to.................. 1
" Trips to..................49, 73, 97
Western Farm Lands—Inquiries about.199
" Farms—Munchausen Stories
" Land Stories—N. Y. Evangel.225
Wheat Bread—How Mrs. Smith Makes. 64
" Crop—California............... 77
" Fields—Look up Bare Spots...152
" Flour—Composition of......... 52
" Insects........................244
" Sowing........................269
" Spring Experiments in. 100, 152, 177
" Sprouted 4
Willow Culture...................62, 81
Willows—How about those..........137
Wind-mills—Vermont Illustrated...... 55
Wisconsin Farming in.................224
" vs. Ohio, &c..............248
Woman and the Garden.............208
" Courageous...................235
Wool from Different Kinds of Food....131
Words—Using Plain...................221
Working and Thinking................ 80
Writing for Agricultural Journals......285
Wyandott Corn................29, 132, 344

Y.

Yankee—A Green.....................151

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

EDITED BY
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

PUBLISHED BY
ALLEN & Co., 189 Water-st.

VOL. XV.—No. 1.] NEW-YORK, OCTOBER, 1855. [NEW SERIES—No. 105.

☞For Prospectus, Terms, &c., and for Special and Business Notices, please refer to last page.

NEW ROUTE TO THE WEST—CANADA AND WISCONSIN FARMING.

Having occasion to make a trip recently to Wisconsin, we were induced to take a route lately opened, from Toronto by Railroad northwardly, past Lake Simcoe to the head of the Georgian Bay at Collingwood; thence by steamboat through the Bay to its junction with Lake Huron; thence near the great Manitouline and some of the lesser islands that so profusely gem that magnificent Lake, to Mackinac. The Railroad is new, yet leads through an old cultivated country to Simcoe. From this point north, the country is raw enough to satisfy the most inveterate sticklers for uncontaminated nature.

The older settled lands are good, consisting generally of a fertile loam, with more or less inclination to clay, which in some cases, approaches to a very stiff soil. The portion of the land near the Bay, is of the most unpromising character, consisting of light sand and sterile gravel, spread out in an almost unvarying level, and covered with a dense growth of pine, hemlock, white and red cedar, and white birch. These forest trees generally skirt the shores of our western lakes and their tributaries north of 44°, though occasionally a fine growth of sugar-maple, hickory, and beach, (which more generally prevail in the interior, and always indicate the finest western soils,) comes down to the brink of the water and stretch away inland as far as the eye can reach. These trees covered the slopes of a majestic hill near Collingwood, (which is said to be 1,200 feet high, but did not appear more than half of it,) and extended entirely over and beyond its top, while scattered thickly through them were the clearings and buildings of the hardy pioneers.

The view of the eastern shore on the tongue of land or peninsula, and the adjacent islands lying between the Bay and Lake Huron, is by far the most beautiful we have yet seen in the northwest. This is attributable to the varied and increased altitude of the shores, the islands which border, and the numerous bays and inlets which indent it, affording a continually shifting yet always picturesque view as the boat passes rapidly onward to her destination. One of these islands, called The Flower Pots, from its having two seemingly inverted rocks, (not a very unusual thing in a limestone region, which most of that country is,) that have apparently turned a somerset, and are now standing on their head, the base being much smaller than the apex. A wine-glass with its foot buried in the sand is not an inapt illustration of these little wonders. The bold chalky cliffs, not unfrequently overhanging with their bristling heads of firs, the pure waters below, stud the shore both on the island and the main, and lend a peculiar charm to this new and attractive route.

The farming in Canada has greatly improved since we were last through this portion of it, some years since. There are many excellent farmers in the Provinces. Nicer or more skilful or successful cultivation is not to be found in the States, than is exhibited on many of the Canadian farms. The products are such as are grown in central and northern New-York. There are fewer orchards, and a less number of well-bred horses, cattle and sheep than are seen among us; but the spirit of improvement is thoroughly roused throughout the Provinces, and numerous fine animals attest the zeal, intelligence and liberality that have possessed our trans-lake cousins. Let any who doubt the progress of things there, visit the next annual exhibition, in October, at Coburg, Canada West, and he will see what would have astonished even a New-Yorker twenty years ago.

The Government have encouraged the formation of a general, and numerous sub-Provincial agricultural societies, by various grants of money; and there is every indication from their past history and present success, that they have become thoroughly incorporated as one of the indispensable features of Canadian farming. They have already the nucleus of a respectable library at their rooms in Toronto, (soon to be again the seat of Government for the Provinces,) and there may generally be found, Professor Buckland and the Secretary, Mr. Thompson, engaged in the duties of forwarding the great agricultural interests of the country.

Many of the rural population are emigrants, who bring with them their strong Scotch, English and Irish prejudices, which, like their brogue, is much harder to shake off in Canada than the United States. This is owing to the less number of schools, the more limited general intercourse, and the countenance they derive from the higher classes. A knot of Scotch or Irish settle together, and having little intercourse beyond their own circle, and a great man or two to look up to, almost as obstinate or unintelligible as themselves, will hold on to their brogue, their quirks and their oddities, for two or three generations; yet had the same men settled any where in Yankee land, the *natives* would have almost as quickly dispersed their language and habits, as the confusion of tongues did the select citizens of ancient Babel. One can hardly understand what many of those people are talking about. The Yankee *plu*, as they call it, is, however, rapidly supplanting the cumbrous Scotch iron implement, which requires fifty per cent more team to draw it, and costs four times as much without doing any better work. The proprietors of a thriving agricultural-implement warehouse in Toronto informed us, that the trade in implements imported from the United States, nearly doubled annually, so decidedly superior in economy, lightness of draught, and efficiency, do they find them to such as they have heretofore brought from abroad.

I found, very much to my surprise however, that the recently so highly lauded reciprocal treaty, left an onerous impost on these necessary articles. Not a single efficient manufactory of this description of implements is to be found in British America, yet every one of these articles brought into the Provinces from the States, is subject to this exaction. The fullest selling price, too, is assumed for levying the ad valorem. The Collector informed us, as he complacently sipped his fragrant Macaboy, that several reaping machines had been seized the present season, although invoiced considerably above the manufacturer's cost; but they happened to be somewhat below the usual selling price. If the Canadians need reciprocity in any thing, it is in procuring better tools to work with, and we hope the next time they achieve reciprocal treaties, they will make a free interchange of agricultural implements as thoroughly a *sine qua non* as agricultural products.

The progress of agriculture in Wisconsin has been rapidly onward, as ever before since the settlement of this fine region. Population is pouring in to every portion of the State, and they conquer as they go. Farms are everywhere taken up and at once subjected to an intelligent tillage. The settlers are among the best farmers of our northern States and the north of Europe, who bring unusual intelligence, and superior habits of economy and application with them. We have always noticed that emigration, in a great measure, extended itself on isothermal lines, not following precisely the same latitude, but preserving nearly the same climate as before accustomed to, in their emigrations westward. This law brings to the fertile lands and the healthful, invigorating climate of Wisconsin, the hardy sons and daughters of Maine, Vermont, New-Hampshire, and northern New-York; and from Europe, numerous representatives from the northern hives of Denmark, Norway, Scotland, and northern Germany. With such a population, success can not be uncertain.

The soil and climate of Wisconsin are admirably adapted to wheat, which is a much more certain crop, and generally of finer quality, than in Illinois. It is here less subject to winter kill, and therefore this State is susceptible of raising the choicest varieties. Oats and all the cereal grains grow in the greatest profusion, as well as grass, every kind of esculent roots, and the northern fruits. The potatoes are equal to the best Irish or Nova Scotia, and are very productive; and we have seldom seen finer crops of ruta bagas, beets, carrots, cabbage, &c., in October, than we noticed in and about Manitouwoc the first of September. One man, who has his farm only partially cleared, told us he had already cut two hundred tuns of hay from less than one hundred acres of land, and many of his meadows seemed at that time to have another tun of aftermath fit for the scythe. This crop is worth at least $15 per tun, owing to the rapid emigration into the country, and the large demand from the numerous lumbering teams which are employed in the rich pineries that line the Manitouwoc river.

We have often wondered at the inducements influencing those who migrate far beyond the western shores of Lake Michigan. Every foot beyond that shore demands expensive transportation eastward; and it is only when reached, that every product destined for exportation, has a fixed value but a few cents per bushel below the highest market price in Buffalo. Looking to the net profits of a farm whose products must be shipped eastward for a market, one on the shores of the Lake may be worth $50 or even $100 per acre, when 100 to 200 miles in the interior, the most productive may not be worth the Government price of $1 25. In conversation with a plain but thinking Vermonter, who had planted himself on the Wisconsin river, he acknowledged that *position* had as much to do with agricultural prosperity as soil; and that he had committed a great error in placing himself so far off from the great arteries through which flow the internal commerce of the United States.

The Poultry Chronicle.—We are sorry to part company with this interesting and instructive weekly sheet, edited by Miss Elizabeth Watts—and the only publication of its kind in the world. It will hereafter be merged into the Cottage Gardener, which paper we hope to receive in exchange, especially so as Miss Watts is to be one of the contributors if not editors of the latter journal.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FARMING IN BERKSHIRE, MASS.—WHEAT GROWING—MOWING MACHINES, &c.

We left town August 3d, for a trip to the hills of old Berkshire. We had our first experience with the new patent car ventilators, upon the Housatonic railroad, and the ride from Bridgeport to Pittsfield will be a memorable day in our calender for its comfortable traveling. The ventilator fully equals the advertisement, which sets forth its advantages, and railroad corporations now have it in their power to remove the last great annoyance in summer journeying. The dust and cinders are absolutely kept out of the cars, and a brisk circulation of fresh air is kept up while they are in motion. The traveler has a fine breeze in the hottest day, pure air for his lungs, a clear unsoiled page for his reading, and little use for a clothes brush at the end of his journey. The damage done to apparel by dust and cinders amounts to millions every year, to say nothing of their influence upon the delicate membranes of the lungs, which are almost suffocated for hours in succession in the common cars. The expense of fitting up one of these ventilators is about a thousand dollars for a train of cars, depending somewhat of course upon the number of the cars to be fitted. Though this invention has been before the world for some time and its success fully demonstrated, we are surprised to find so few railroads adopting it. The fourth estate should take hold of this matter and assert the rights of the traveling public to pure air in their journeyings.

On the upper part of this road we began to meet with wheat fields, and along through Great Barrington and West Stockbridge we saw fields that would have done great credit to the wheat growing districts. The spring varieties are principally cultivated. Ten years ago as we passed over this route we do not remember to have seen a single field of wheat. Now they are so numerous as to attract attention. They are for the most part in small patches of one acre or two, as if the farmers were feeling their way cautiously toward wheat growing, as one of their main crops. In Williamstown, where we stopped for a few days, this crop is already grown every year by a few of the farmers. On Mason's hill we saw as fine wheat as ever waved over a prairie. D. A. Buckley, of the Stone Hill farm, cultivates several varieties, and this crop is a part of his routine.

We see it suggested by a writer in the Country Gentleman, that the Hessian fly probably led to the discontinuance of this crop among New-England Farmer's, rather than the exhaustion of the soil. The fly no doubt was among the hinderances, but we think the mode of cultivation had much more to do with it than the fly. As a rule, wheat was sown by our grandfather's without manure, or the turning in of any crop. The soil was over-tasked, it yielded after a time very little grain, and farmers became disheartened. Potatoes would grow, and yield abundantly where wheat would not, and this crop partially took the place of wheat. If the potatoe rot, shall drive us back again to wheat culture, we shall have reason to bless a kind Providence for the visitation. Cultivators are now trying experiments all through New-England, to see if wheat can not be grown again on well prepared soil. Those near the market towns are using Peruvian guano, and so far as we have heard, with encouraging success. With this manure, we grew this season a beautiful field of Black Sea wheat, in a neighborhood where none had been raised for twenty years. In Rhode Island, where less than a hundred bushels was reported as the product of the whole State in the census of 1850, we see home-grown wheat quoted in the price current.

One thing very noticeable through this county is, the increased breadth of land under cultivation this season. Such fields of oats we never remember to have seen. The slopes of whole hills were sometimes covered with this crop. While on the south sides they are now cradling the yellow grain, on the north sides they are still perfectly green, and two weeks will hardly bring them to maturity. It is agreed on all hands, that this crop is very heavy.

Another crop very extensively grown here is buckwheat. Almost every farm has its field. It is now in full blossom and forms one of the beautiful features of the enchanting summer scenery of this region. Its white blossoms may be seen far up the sides of the mountains, contrasting pleasantly with the deep verdure of the forest, and the lighter green and yellow of the oat fields.

The potatoes that grow upon these hills, off of the heavy clay soils, are unrivaled. As yet there is no appearance of disease among them, and the acres that are now variegated with the blossoms of this esculent can hardly be counted. "The one more acre," on which the newspapers insisted in the spring, was planted up here on almost every farm. We found several of them far up the sides of Grey Lock, just on the verge of the Hopper, several miles from any habitation. They were peach blows, and from the health and vigor of the vines, they were manifestly quite at home, though so far abroad.

THE MOWING MACHINE

has invaded this secluded region, and now the meadows of the Hoosic are annually cut by horse power. Finer grass land can not be found in the State than these bottoms. It was a beautiful sight to see this mower sweep along the smooth sward, leaving the dewy grass handsomely spread, and glistening in the morning sun.

The premium farm of the State, owned by Mr. Harrison, lies in this valley, and embraces within its limits the site of old Fort Massachusetts. It is a charming spot, and bears marks of thorough cultivation. Could Ephraim Williams and the stalwart band of pioneers, that first laid open this region and occupied that fort, revisit the scenes of their struggles, they would hardly recognize their wilderness home in these smiling fields. How would they wonder to see cultivation creeping so far up the sides of the mountains, and the smoke of fresh clearings in many cases descending from their very summits; to hear by the still waters of Hoosic, instead of the whoop of the savage, the sharp clatter of the mower sweeping over fields then studded with the first growth of the forest—instead of the growl of the bear, the shrill whistle of the locomotive bringing Boston within twelve hours of their mountain fortress, instead of the sounds of forest life, the busy hum of industry, upon the farm and in the work-shop!

In the college established here by the munificence of Col. Williams, we found what is rare to find in our colleges—an association for rural cultivation, and evidence, in the laying out of the grounds, in the flower beds cultivated by the students and in the private gardens of the professors, that the society was a reality, and was doing a good work. Of these pleasure grounds, these pleasant rural homes, these fruit yards, luscious with the gifts of Pomona, we hope to speak on another occasion.

Williamstown, August, 1855.

Not Endorsed.—Two of our subscribers—we wonder there have not been more—have written us in quite an ungracious mood, ordering the Times stopped, and wondering that we could endorse the views of that paper. Stay, good friends—our chief connection with the Times is with its agricultural matter, and as an *agricultural* and *news* paper we have offered it to our old friends. If they want these departments (which are alone worth far more than the paper costs), and do not like the rest, it is an easy matter to pass over such portions as are not liked. As an agricultural and news paper we can recommend the Times. With its politics or other views, aside from agriculture, we repeat we have no connection. But we force that paper upon no one. Those not wishing it can simply say so, and they will receive the Agriculturist for double the time they have paid for. But the great mass of our readers have elected to receive both papers, and very many have already expressed themselves as highly pleased with our new arrangement.

☞ Our aim in editing this journal is to make it a kind of monthly budget, into which we can put all such valuable articles and extracts as we can gather from a careful reading of the great mass of current agricultural literature. We can not therefore spare much room for lengthy reports of local agricultural exhibition, or other matters not of general interest

A much larger space in this number than we intended is occupied with advertisements. We expect that this space will be materially diminished hereafter.

Ohio Agricultural College.—This Institution is permanently located at Cleveland. The winter session of twelve weeks will open the first week in December. For circular, and any particulars, address Thomas Brown, Secretary of the Board of Trustees, at Cleveland, Ohio.

NEW EXCHANGES.

By the same mail we find among our exchanges two agricultural journals, Volume 1, Number 1. The one, The Homestead, published at Hartford, Conn., by Andrew Stark, and edited by Rev. Wm. Clift and Messrs. T. S. Gold and Henry A. Dyer; and the other, the Western Agriculturist, published at Pittsburg, Pa., by David Ramaley; the editor's name is not given.

Both of these papers are weekly, and in the same form, style and number of pages as the weekly American Agriculturist, the pages being somewhat shorter. The price of each is put at $2 a year, with no reduction to clubs, which will give a greater chance for profit on what numbers are issued, though not likely to add to their circulation, for a slight reduction in price to clubs is a considerable stimulus to subscribers to act as agents in pushing a paper up to a given figure. Cheap papers are all the rage now-a-days. With an eye to the public good, *we* prefer to send to ten thousand subscribers instead of to ten for the same amount of profit. It is now our pleasure to speak to more than sixty-two thousand subscribers through the columns of the Times and American Agriculturist. But this by the way.

We know all the editors of The Homestead personally, and can vouch for the sterling value and the reliability of their paper. We have had an eye to adapting our own journal in part to the special wants of Connecticut—but there is room enough for us both, and we hope The Homestead will grow to far outstrip our past efforts. We'll endeavor to lead on. Here's our ☞ of friendship, and our best wishes for great success.

Of the managers of the Western Agriculturist we can not speak from personal acquaintance, but we bid them God speed. The farmers of western Pennsylvania *need* such a journal as this promises to be. We are sorry some other name was not chosen, as few will take the trouble to add "*American*" or "*Western*," when speaking of the American Agriculturist or Western Agriculturist, and some confusion will be the result; but, no matter, we have, we trust, some credit to spare as capital for our young cotemporary. Our Pittsburg friend may take a hint from a remark of Professor Clark, in a College not far from its own location. Said he, "I have no ambition to labor, for, should I by chance accomplish any great thing, the credit would all go to Dr. Adam Clark, or to some other one of the great Clark's who have been *so long* before the world."

"Our Crow."—A correspondent, whose crow is evidently not a brother of *our* crow, thus pleasantly alludes to our recent article under the above heading:

"I do not know what *your* crow will do in the way of stealing eggs; but, bless your life, there are some two to six that stay about this place, and I have seen them fly off with geese and turkey eggs. *Our* crow will take ten eggs a day—perhaps for its young. They are "some" on a careless "cullud pusson's" breakfast, if left come-atable, and steal meat and bread equal to a starving thief."

☞ We are not disposed to complain of small matters, but recently we have received a large number of letters making inquiries which we could only answer by letter, and in very many instances we have not only been left to write out replies, but also to pay postage. In such cases, no one, we think, can justly complain if we take our own time to answer them. We always think, however, that a thing of this kind must have been the result of thoughtlessness, and generally stretch our charitable excuses to the amount of time, paper, envelops, and a postage stamp from our own pocket.

Connecticut State Exhibition.—The second Annual Exhibition of the State Society will open at Hartford, on the 9th of October, and continue four days. Some $7,000 are offered in Premiums, and from several sources we learn that there is every prospect of a display of the first order. They have the right class of men engaged in the enterprise, and with favorable weather there will be one of the largest gathering of visitors, and of agricultural and manufactured products, ever witnessed in the State. We shall look especially for an interesting and varied exhibition of domestic manufactures, in which this preëminently "Yankee State" so greatly abounds.

Testing Eggs.—There is no difficulty whatever in testing eggs. Take them into a room moderately dark, and hold them between the eye and a candle or lamp. If the egg is good—that is, if the albumen is still unaffected—the light will shine through with a reddish glow, while if the egg is affected it will be opaque or dark. A very few trials will show any one the ease and simplicity of this method. In Fulton and Washington markets a man may be seen testing eggs, at almost any time in the year. He has a tallow candle placed under a counter or desk, and taking up the eggs, three in each hand, passes them rapidly before the candle, and deposits them in another box. His practiced eye quickly perceives the least want of clearness in the eggs, and suspicious ones are reëxamined, and thrown away or passed to a "doubtful" box. The process is so rapid, that we have seen eggs inspected perfectly at the rate of one to two hundred per minute, or as fast as they could be shifted from one box to another, six at a time.

Cattle from Texas.—On a recent visit to Lasalle, says the Chicago Press, we were informed that a gentleman resident there, named McCoy, formerly of Kenosha, with three or four other persons in that neighborhood, is concerned in driving cattle from Texas and Mexico, and that they now have 20,000 on the way, which will probably arrive there within a few weeks.

A bale of hay is 300 pounds; 100 cubic feet in a solid mow of hay will weigh a tun.

SPROUTED WHEAT.

When grain sprouts a portion of the starch is converted into sugar, so that the dough made from such flour does not rise readily, but has a tendency to form a heavy mass that will not make up into "light loaves." This chemical change is effected by the peculiar germinative principle called *diastase*, the resulting sugar being intended for the support of the young wheat plant.

Bread made from grown wheat is still nutritious, though it has a sweetish taste, and is not so palatable as that from sound grain. It should be kneaded as dry and as hard as possible, and "molded up" three times instead of twice. Bakers add a little alum; and though it is the fashion to complain of this in the newspapers, we are not sure that a little of it does any harm, while we *are sure* that almost every body likes their nice, white, puffy bread. This substance is said to be peculiarly adapted to the flour of grown grain. Somebody says that a glass of whisky mixed into such dough does it good; but this practice must rest entirely on "somebody's" assertion until we get a different chemistry, as there is no theoretical reason for it to be found in that of ours.

The presence of a very small proportion of sprouted kernels has a very sensible effect on the flour—millers complaining of even one part in a hundred. For this reason the sprouted sheaves should be threshed by themselves, and the grain intended for market strongly winnowed to separate the grown kernels, which may be kept for home use, or if too much grown, taken for feed.

No damaged wheat should be sent to market, as the depreciation on the price of the lot will more than compensate any gain in measure. Nor should it be saved for seed, as the growth of the crop would be prevented, or at least diminished, by just so much as the seed was damaged by sprouting, since the young plant would be deprived of a part of the food that nature has provided for it until it can take root.

ANIMAL OR PLANT.

The distinction between the two classes of living beings that appears to be so simple, is in reality, exceedingly complicated and difficult to determine. Naturalists have at times founded distinctions on power of motion; nitrogenized composition; volition; perception; and, lastly, on peculiarities of respiration; but these have, one by one, given way before the march of investigation, until we can not now say that a living being is an animal because it moves from place to place, gives out ammonia, obeys the impulse of its will, or perceives what passes around it and regulates its movements accordingly. These properties belong, or appear to belong, to some plants as well as animals, or are deficient in some animals as well as in plants. When Naturalists broke down the barriers that were thought to separate the two kingdoms, they failed to construct others. Prof. Owen, in his recently published lectures, is compelled to avow that they pass into each other by such insensible gradations, that no man can say where one begins and the other ends.

"BLOODY MURRAIN" AND "SCOURS."

There are some recipes going the rounds of the public press for the treatment of bowel complaints in man and beast, which we intend to compliment with more than a mere insertion. We made a list of them, commencing with "Bloody Murrain—A Cure," and including the article from our western friend, setting forth the unaccountable virtues of oak bark for diarrhea, showing how it brought away from him certain "ulcer caps," to the scandal of the regular doctors and the renown of his wife; and how he finally, by the grace of oak bark, or a return to New-England—we are uncertain which—did recover; and how he contends, from these premises, that it will cure horned cattle. Our list further included the thousand dollars' worth of steers killed by eating acorns—the cure for which is a "plate of lard"—and concluded with the "Runnet Receipt," which we believe, after all, to be as good and as a safe as any of them. But the text has become so voluminous, that we must omit either it or the commentary.

We suppose that by "bloody murrain" we are to understand dysentery, and that "scours" is another name for diarrhea. Neither of these diseases ever occurs without some cause for its production, and that cause is to be sought for in the food of the animal. The mistaken notion at the bottom of the treatment of such complaints, as advocated by the papers, is in supposing that the discharges are the disease, instead of being an effort of the system for the restoration of the bowels to health.

When a person takes a pinch of snuff, the irritation of the foul powder on the delicate lining of the nose produces a flow to wash it away. When a grain of sand gets into the eye, there is an effusion of tears to wash it out. When any irritating substance is taken into the mouth, there is a profuse secretion of saliva by which nature attempts to wash it away; and the same holds true of even the outside of the body, where the natural process for removing a blister is by a deposit of water under it to wash it off.

Now if a person in any of these cases were to busy himself in endeavors to stop the flow of water from the irritated surfaces, and if he should succeed perfectly with astringents in doing so—or in so tanning the flesh that it should become quite dry—he would have accomplished a great deal of mischief. He would have completely thwarted nature's efforts at cure, and she would be under the necessity of proceeding by a second and more circuitous route. A knowledge of these principles is the key to the successful management of bowel complaints.

In the treatment of these diseases, then, we say:

First—Ascertain the cause. It may be feeding on frost-bitten grass; it may be from some poisonous herb, or from sudden change as from dry feed to green. As far as possible avoid this cause.

Second—Keep the animal perfectly quiet. It can not eat as much as usual; consequently it will fall away faster in flesh if allowed to run about. Besides, the restoration of the bowels from the injury they have received depends more on time than the the quantity of the discharges, while the evacuations are very much increased by walking.

Third—In this condition of the intestines, on account of impaired digestion, the food must be more simple than that ordinarily used, or it will pass through unchanged; thus increasing the trouble. The natural appetite of the animal when in this condition, will guide it correctly in most cases in choosing food from those kinds which it has been in the habit of eating.

These circumstances secured to the animal, it may take a few spoonfuls of milk and water, or molasses, or runnet, if any body will feel better for giving these medicines; and if restoration should be attributed to them, we shall not dispute the matter, for we should never be able to prove the negative. Yet we confess that it is difficult for us to see how even giving runnet is doing any thing more than putting another drop in the bucket of an animal whose insides are lined with runnet.

But we can not pass the astringent treatment so lightly. We have seen so many animals destroyed by want of attention to the cause of bowel complaints and a reckless use of drugs, that we warn farmers against resorting indiscriminately to this treatment, or reposing any confidence in those cow doctors whose whole method of cure consists in "puckering up" with oak bark, or any other astringent, and who have no knowledge of the animal system or of the cause of the complaint.

REMOVING HASSOCKS OR BOGS.

These pests to the farmers meadows may be got rid of in a cheap, simple manner, and now is the best time of the year to remove them.

Take a sufficiently heavy log, one and a half to two feet in diameter, as required by the weight necessary to keep it down close to the ground, and of as great a length as may be convenient to work it, say five to ten feet or more. Hew off one side of this enough to make it lie level, then take old saw plates, grind them to a sharp edge on one side, and spike them to the flat side of the log. Now attach a chain to each end, and to the center of this, or a little one side of the center, so as to make it move angling; hook on one or two pairs of oxen, and then move ahead. The saw plates will pare off hassocks, bogs, anthills, and other protuberances in the nicest and most efficient manner.

There are paring plows also made for this purpose, in the form of a triangle, which are very effective, and may be easily worked with one pair of horses; and as they are only about three feet wide, they can be used where stones and rocks are not too thick, and where the log would be too long to work advantageously. Such a plow may be purchased for fifteen dollars.

OLD MEADOWS.

"A Young Farmer," writing from Constitution, Ohio, says:

"I have a piece of meadow land which has been cleared about ten years. The seeding was done by harrowing in, and it has never been plowed. It now yields only about half a crop of grass, but a goodly amount of iron weeds. Some of my neighbors advise me to plow it up, while others say it ought not to be plowed, as I never can get as good a sod again. Now, Mr. Editor, can you or any of your correspondents inform me what I must do, in order to have a first rate meadow?"

REMARKS.—Breaking up old meadows for the purpose of re-seeding, is practiced to advantage in most parts of the country. The roots and other vegetable matters that exist in new soils, by their slow decomposition exert fertilizing influences for years. When they are gone, the soil settles and becomes more compact, and the grass—as the common expression is—*runs out;* not from old age, nor from a lack of the inorganic elements of growth, but by reason of an improper condition of the soil. Such meadows are to be benefitted by breaking up, and by plowing under as much vegetable matter as may be in the shape of sod, green growth, and stable manure, and then re-seeding.

From the fact that there is now a growth of weeds on our correspondent's meadow, it is probable that there is no lack of mineral ingredients necessary to a good growth of grass, and that the existing deficiency is rather from a want of ammonia and carbonic acid in the soil to render those mineral ingredients soluble. Such land is to be benefitted by plowing in green crops.

It has lately been proposed to subsoil such meadows, admitting air and draining off water, so as to allow the decomposition of what organic matter may remain to go on again for their restoration. But this treatment can afford only temporary relief, while it does nothing towards extinguishing foul weeds.

If the resources of the farm are such that this land can be manured, the problem is readily solved. A good growth of corn once secured, some one of the grain crops may follow it, and the ground may be laid down at the same time.

To one who asked him how to improve land, Mr. Webster is said to have replied, "Grow turnips." He did not stop to inquire too nicely into theoretical notions of the origin of the elements of fertility, to ask the origin of ammonia, or how carbonic acid is reduced in the leaf, but was satisfied with the truth that increase of live stock produces increased fertility, and that all this is effected most readily by growing turnips. To meet the wider processes and larger necessities of western farmers, this prescription becomes "Grow corn."

In many places, such land as we apprehend this to be, will bring a paying crop of corn even without manure. To effect this best, neither the aftermath nor the spring growth should be fed off, but turned under week before planting time, with one fine, careful plowing, and the corn planted on the inverted furrows. The crop may need nursing with guano, wood ashes, gypsum, or liquid manures, until the sod begins to decay, but when that is reached it will go on rapidly.

As to the propriety of venturing on a corn crop without manure in this particular case, our correspondent must decide from observation of like lands in his neighborhood, assisted by the experience and judgment of his neighbors. It is common with young farmers to suppose that there is some infallible rule of practice in agricultural science, and that editors have only to "figure up" problems like this to give them the "right answer."

In the dairying districts of this State, where the land is rough with stones, or wet, the meadows are very generally top-dressed with manure. Many of these dairymen plow only for potatoes and oats, and use all the manure on the meadows. This policy avoids hiring labor, and farms treated in this way rapidly improve. The expense of this kind of management on large farms is still further lessened by small hay barns out on the meadows, or stacks scattered about on them, for noon feeding in winter. By this kind of top-dressing our correspondent can restore his meadow, if he can manage to get rid of the weeds.

The Eastern agricultural press are just now recommending farmers to invert such meadows with the plow in the fall, turning under as much green growth as may be, and seed them again to grass only. The surface should be harrowed, brushed, and rolled down smooth, and the new growth should be allowed to get as far advanced as may be before winter, to effect which the young meadow should be liberally top-dressed with special manures.

And, finally, having secured a good, vigorous growth, do not wait for it to run out before breaking it up and plowing it under. The great manure, after all, is *sod*, and the secret of good farming, of keeping the land in heart, is in spoiling good meadows. Break up the poor meadows and manure them, and lay them down again until you have none but good ones to serve in this way. Then you will raise no poor crops by reason of poor land.

BROOM CORN.—The Albany Argus says it is a singular omission in the United States census, that it does not give any statistics of the amount of broom corn raised in the country. In our own State hundreds upon hundreds of acres are appropriated to the cultivation of this desirable commodity. Broom corn never was stouter, nor a better crop than during the present year.

THERE are at Oswego, N. Y., sixteen flouring mills, with eighty-four run of stone, capable of manufacturing about 10,000 barrels of flour per day. The facilities for handling grain are extensive; the elevating capacity abost 36,000 barrels per hour, and the storage room equal to about two million two hundred thousand bushels.

PROTECTION OF HORSES FROM FLIES.

Horses are not only very nervous, but very sensitive. A blow scarcely perceived by a thick skinned ox will produce excessive pain when inflicted on a spirited horse. The skin of the horse is much more highly organized than that of the ox, much better supplied with nerves and blood vessels, and it is probable, for this reason, that it does not make solid leather. Every one has seen spirited horses tremble in the stable at the sound of a whip, and any one who has had occasion to inflict wounds on both classes of animals knows how much more pain is produced on the horse by the same operation than on the ox.

Flies during the summer are a serious source of annoyance and pain to the horse. If at liberty, he dashes about and stamps when stung by them, and thus gets clear of his tormenters. When confined, then, can we blame him if he become restive and maddened by their presence? New-York cartmen resort to a number of contrivances besides netting to protect their horses from these depredators. They put a pantaloon—if we may be allowed the singular of the word—on each leg of the animal, and support it by attaching it to some part of the harness. To defend the lower part of his body, a piece of cloth is extended from one shaft of the cart to the other, underneath the horse. Strips of muslin are tied where they will, by their fluttering, drive the flies from other exposed parts. That side of the horses neck unoccupied by his mane is protected by two or three cords attached by one end to the head piece of the bridle, and by the other to the top of the hames. These cords hang slack so that they vibrate up and down with every movement of the horses head, and thus scare away the flies.

An umbrella to protect the animal from the rays of the sun is sometimes constructed by lashing a strip of wood transversely to the two front stakes of the cart, and another slip to the hames, crosswise the horse's neck, and then extending a piece of cotton cloth from one to the other.

THE QUEEN'S MEWS OR STABLES.

A lady friend now in London writes us: Such nicely kept stables, and such fine horses, from the large coach down to small ponies, is rare to find. The state coach horses are heavy Hanoverian cream-colored—some with brown manes and tails, and some with white or "silver." The Queen's favorite is the most lovely horse I ever saw. He is of a bright strawberry roan, the tail a snowy-white, immensely full, and fairly trailing on the ground. The mane is of the same color, equally full, and all of three-quarters of a yard long! Its eyes have the intelligence of those of a human being. There are some fine Arabians here, but others only so-so, and hardly to be admired. The ordinary carriage horses are brown. All told, when the Queen's household is in town, they number one hundred and sixty!

The state carriage weighs four tuns, and is about 20 feet long and 12 feet high. Two stout figures in gilt are mounted behind, and the coachman's box is nearly as large as the whole of an ordinary sized carriage. The wheels represent golden suns, and the sides of the carriage have beautifully enameled paintings. The cream-colored horses when harnessed before it must look like the little mice attached to Cinderella's chariot. The harness for each horse is very large and heavy. The gold alone on it for the team of eight, is said to weigh eighty pounds.

There is a fine riding school attached to the mews or stables. Here the two young Princes exercise on horseback daily when in town, and amuse themselves by jumping the bar, &c.

ONE WAY TO DRY FRUIT.

We recently noticed a simple apparatus for drying fruit at the residence of a farmer in Dutchess County, a description of which may furnish a hint to others. Upon the south side of his kitchen is a "stoop" some ten feet high. Just below the roof is arranged a shelf or platform, the full size of the stoop, and resting on small rollers upon each side; a sort of railway is formed, each rail consisting of two narrow slats or boards nailed together, but kept separated about an inch from each other by short bits of board placed between them at short intervals; these railways are nailed up against the two sides of the stoop and project out eight feet from the roof. Upon these the drying platform is supported by a number of wheels, or pullies, formed by sawing off sections of a round stick after a three-quarter inch auger hole has been bored through its center; these are arranged in the opening between the two slats forming each side rail, and are held in place by wooden pins put through the side pieces. The wheels or pullies stand a little above the surface of the rails, and over them the platform moves easily. Plums, cherries, apples and other fruits are spread upon the platform, and during drying days it is rolled out upon the projecting supports, exposing the fruit to the sun. At evening, or upon the approach of rain, the platform is easily shoved back under the roof. Such an apparatus can be constructed in a single day; it will last for years, and be amply sufficient to dry a large quantity of different kinds of fruit annually.

A similar apparatus might be arranged upon a garret floor, to be shoved out through a temporary opening under the eaves trough. In this case the inner portion of the platform should be held by pullies over it to prevent the outer end from tipping downward. If this is done there will be no necessity for projecting supports.

Cotton Crop in Mississippi.—Mr. M. W. Phillips, writing from Hinds County, Miss., under date of September 3, says that it has been raining in that section for about eight days, and that cotton, in consequence, is very much injured. He says that he has never seen so much rust and rot; that he has seen five to ten acres without a healthy stalk—the mass of them as dead as in mid-winter; and that he has never seen the like before, excepting, perhaps, about 1822. He is certain that in Madison and Hinds counties there will not be an average yield.

SONG OF THE SPADE.

BY J. BEDFORD LENO.

Give me the spade and the man who can use it;
  A fig for your lord and his soft silken hand;
Let the man who has strength never stoop to abuse it,
  Give it back to the giver—the land, boys, the land.
There's no bank like the earth to deposit your labor—
  The more you deposit, the more you shall have;
If there's more than you want you can give to your neighbor,
  And your name shall be dear to the true and the brave.

Give me the spade—Old England's glory,
  That fashioned the field from the bleak barren moor,
Let us speak of its praise with ballad and story,
  While 'tis brightened with labor, not tarnished with gore.
It was not the sword that won our best battle,
  Created our commerce, and extended our trade,
Gave food for our wives, our children and cattle;
  But the queen of all weapons, the spade, boys, the spade.

Give me the spade; there's a magic about it
  That turns the black soil into bright shining gold;
What would our fathers have done, boys, without it,
  When the lands lay all bare, and the north winds blew cold?
Where the tall forests stood, and the wild beasts were yelling,
  Where our stout-hearted ancestors shrank back afraid,
The corn-stack is raised, and mankind claim a dwelling,
  Then, hurrah for our true friend—the spade, boys, the spade.

THE WYANDOTT CORN.

We have received from Mr. J. C. Thompson, of Tompkinsville, Staten-Island, N. Y., a full description of this new, and in some respects extraordinary variety of Indian corn, from which we condense the following:

Last spring he planted twenty four grains, procured from Mr. James R. Thomas, of Waverly, Ill., in hills four feet apart, one kernel in a hill. About the first week in May eighteen grains came up, which at first did not differ in appearance from the ordinary corn. When about 18 inches high, shoots (not suckers) began to spring up from the *roots*, to the number of seven in some hills. These secondary shoots soon outstripped the main stalk, and grew to the hight of ten feet and over. Up to the first week in August there was little prospect of any yield of corn, though there were incipient ears numbering as high as thirty on a hill.

During August those ears developed rapidly, so that 17 hills contained 82 stalks, bearing 123 good ears and 105 immature sets for ears, which our season is not sufficiently long to mature. All this resulted from only 17 kernels. One of the hills had six stalks, 13 mature, and 18 immature ones.

The corn was in an unfavorable location, being shaded on the east and west by trees which shut out the morning and evening sun. The rapid filling out and growth of the ears in September, is represented as really astonishing to all who watched its progress. The peculiarity of the variety seems to be, first, a full development of stalks and leaves from shoots springing from the roots, and afterwards a rapid growth and maturing of the ears during August and September. Mr. Thompson states that he shall have some of the seed to dispose of.

He also forwards to us a copy of a letter from Mr. Thomas, dated Waverly, Ill., Aug. 17, from which we make the following extracts:

My crop of Wyandott was planted at intervals between the 1st and 15th of May, on a flat piece of land which had been cultivated four years. A cold, wet spell of weather setting in about a week after planting, and continuing some two weeks, chilled the earth to such a degree that the seed was very tardy in germinating, and greatly retarded in its growth after coming up. A severe frost cut the stalk completely off, compelling me to replant about one half my crop. I also had the cut-worm, the mole, and the field-mouse to contend with, each of which attempted to outvie the other in their destructive pranks, and all of which were very pestiferous to farmers in this section the first of the season. But notwithstanding all these difficulties, my crops of Wyandott is pronounced by the farmers who have visited it, to be one of the greatest wonders ever witnessed by them. The stalk is about 12 feet high, as large in circumference as an ordinary man's wrist—averaging four stalks in a hill, and bearing from 8 to 20 ears, and some as high as 24 ears to a hill, and all from one grain. Why, my dear sir, it looks or sounds Munchausen-like, but it is here in my crop incontestably demonstrated; and if nothing unforeseen occurs to prevent, will be witnessed by thousands of persons at our State Fair, at Chicago, next October.

I planted five acres, and allowing for devastation before mentioned, I presume I shall have about four acres to gather. My crop is filling out rapidly, though late. I noticed particularly in 1854, that the Wyandott matured much more rapidly than any other description growing, and this fact has been remarked to me by several this season. I sincerely hope it may prove so in your section. You are situated, I believe, in latitude about 41°; we are in about 39° 40′—a slight difference in our favor. On the other hand, the difference in longitude being some 15°, is in your favor. However, a short time will test to the satisfaction of all, whether it will answer your climate.

The Oldest Farmer in the World.—Mr. Raggers Bagley has purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Minnesota Territory, which he intends settling upon and improving. Mr. Bagley is one hundred and seven years old, and is still an active and industrious pioneer, in the enjoyment of excellent health. A paper will shortly be issued to him from the General Land Office.—Washington Union.

The buckwheat crop in New-York and Pennsylvania is this year enormous—supposed to be double that of last year. The Pittsburg Chronicle says: "In the memory of man the State of Pennsylvania has never seen so vast a crop of buckwheat as now whitens the fields with its rich blossoms.

Air is a dish one feeds on every minute, and therefore it need be *good*.

THE GREAT STATESMAN'S FARM.

[Notwithstanding the frequent essays upon Daniel Webster's estate, the following plain description—written for us by a Professor in one of our New-England colleges—will be found interesting to every reader.—Ed.]

For the American Agriculturist.

Marshfield, Mass., September, 1855.

While spending a few days at the old mansion of Mr. Webster, enjoying the generous hospitality which has ever characterized the house, originating with the father, and abiding by hereditary descent, as the genius *loci*, with the son, I have taken occasion to study carefully the plans and methods adopted by the great Statesman in cultivating and adorning his estate. Many have often inquired why he selected a farm so remote from any center of business and apparently so inaccessible—for it must be remembered that, when he purchased the estate of Col. Thomas, its former proprietor, it was not in the anticipation of the wisest to visit the beach by steam. This estate then yielded as many of the products and pleasures, both of the ocean and the land, as could be conveniently secured in a single locality. As a summer residence it is still unsurpassed. The heat of the Dog star is tempered by the cool sea breezes. The air and the water yield their inhabitants to satisfy the appetite. The ocean is in sight from the upper windows of the house, and from a hill about one hundred rods west of the house, called "Black Mount," one of the finest prospects is commanded which all New-England affords. The site, with all its appurtenances, delighted the eye and the taste of Mr. Webster. His highest pleasure was in rural life and its simple enjoyments.

Few persons are aware how much money Daniel Webster expended upon his estate. His first object seems to have been to make the whole landscape around him attractive. The native forests had been felled for fuel and for timber. There was a deficiency of trees for shade and embellishment. He proceeded to plant forest trees on the lines of all his fences; where his favorite walks ran about the old homestead, they stand in double rows. A large swell of land south of his residence, containing several acres, was, 30 years ago, a mere sand-hill, from whose surface a high wind would sweep a cloud of dust into every door and window of the house. This eminence was enriched and planted with every variety of shade trees. Now it is a dense copse, with trees and shrubs varying in hight from five to fifty feet, every where intersected by narrow paths, and crowned upon its summit with a circular dome of littice-work, as a summer-house. The garden, containing several acres, lies between this hill and the dwelling-house.

The old elm that has been so often described stands before the door, as a faithful sentinel, decked in a beautiful livery of green. This tree is probably unsurpassed in beauty by any upon the continent. Its trunk is divided about eight feet from the ground into numerous branches, extending in every direction from the parent stock, so as to form a beautiful ellipse, whose transverse axis is about 100 feet. These branches bend over gracefully, in a uniform curve, till their extremities sweep the well-shaven lawn beneath.

The artificial pond of fresh water north of the house, is one of the most striking features of the landscape. Its bed was originally a point of land which was covered by salt water when the tide was in, and formed a part of the marsh which stretches away to the ocean. This semi-circular nook was cut off by a causeway from the flowing of the tide, and it is now supplied with fresh water by springs from the adjacent highlands. It is bordered by a little grove, planted by Mr. Webster, divided through its entire length by a graveled walk, where the host or guest may enjoy a delicious coolness and commune with nature or with his own thoughts. Trees and flowers were necessary to Mr. Webster's happiness. He made abundant provision for both. He had an eye to *utility* as well as to pleasure.

Near his own mansion there is a small quadrangular building, with an ice cellar beneath, designed as a dairy. This is so completely embowered in trees that it must be sought in order to be seen. A building for a similar purpose stands near the cottage where one of his tenants who had charge of his cows resided. It is protected in the same way from the heat of summer.

Fruit trees were set in great abundance in the grounds about the garden, all sheltered from the eastern winds by forest trees. About the year 1847 Mr. Webster set a new orchard of apple and peach trees, on a tongue of land which verges toward the salt marsh, north-east of his house. Some five thousand trees were planted. The apple trees are flourishing finely; the peach trees, which were set in alternate rows with the apple trees, have been blasted to a considerable extent by the winds that blow from the ocean.

Most of the barns and out-houses which were reared for the accommodation of his imported cattle, sheep and swine, will be pulled down. Since the sale of the estate they have not been needed, and no future occupant of the old mansion house will be likely to indulge his taste for superior animals so liberally as Mr. Webster did. Indeed few farmers could afford the expense.

It is estimated by good judges that the improvements annually made by Mr. Webster upon his farm, must have required an outlay of at least five thousand dollars besides the income of the farm of two thousand acres. Here he indulged his tastes without stint and sought relief from the harrassing cares of public life. No one can visit the scenes which his taste adorned, without becoming a wiser and a better man. The head and the heart are both cultivated by the substantial improvements and exquisite embellishments planned and executed by the first man of his age. E. D. S.

The man who does most has the least time to talk about what he does.

For the American Agriculturist.

SAVING SEED.

This is one of the most important branches of Horticulture, and yet none is more generally neglected. The man who is devoted to seed-growing for sale, has a great responsibility resting upon him; for on this branch of the business depends, in a great measure, the supply of the markets. Gardeners in general do not grow their own seed, for the reasons that, they have not time; they have not space of ground; or, if so, they crop it more profitably; and, they have no place to dry seed, or implements to clean them with. Hence they depend chiefly on the seed stores, the proprietors of which, in most cases, buy their seeds of persons who grow them for market, and from those they think reliable. In this they are sometimes deceived, for seeds which they think pure, are often mixed by being grown too near the same class of plants, differing only in variety. When this is done, both are generally spoiled. It is in this manner I account for the frequent disappointments gardeners yearly experience in their seeds—and in Brocoli more than any thing else. It is a very rare thing to get a half pound of Brocoli seed entirely true, for if one single Cabbage should happen to be within a hundred yards, going to seed at the same time as the Brocoli, the whole is inevitably spoiled.

Hence the necessity of the greatest care in the seed grower; for when this seed is sold, a person may plant eight or ten acres and not cut a hundred heads out of it; the rest being between a Brocoli and a Cabbage, will not head at all, there is a clear loss of a large crop, and the labor expended on it. I have a crop now in this fix.

Savoys, Cabbages, Turnips, and in fact most vegetables, are liable to be ruined in the same manner. There is a greater saving of expense in buying, say a pound of Turnip seed, for $2, that you can depend upon, than the same quantity for 50 cents, that you are not sure of. And this extends to all kinds of seeds. The difference of a few cents often induces purchases that are repented of afterwards. Seed, like everything else, must bring a price that will remunerate the careful grower for the trouble and expense attending it. No practice is to be more strongly condemned than the one of selling to stores seeds that have been grown in close proximity to the same class of plants, or any plants with which they will hybridize. The only remedy I know of for the frequent disappointments, is to purchase seeds of the most reliable stores, and give the price asked, even if high, rather than purchase at a lower price from those not to be depended on. W. S.

Value of Linen Thread.—A single pound of flaxen thread, intended for the finest specimens of French lace, is valued at $600! and the length of the thread is about 226 miles! One pound of this thread is more valuable than two pounds of gold.

Trouble like capital; is usually two-thirds borrowed.

Book Record.

All Books received—if not unworthy of notice—will be announced in this column by title, as soon as received. Further notices or reviews of Agricultural and Horticultural Books will be given—when their striking merits or demerits require it—after we have had time to thoroughly examine them.

THE AMERICAN HERD BOOK,

Containing Pedigrees of Short Horn Cattle, with introductory notes, by Lewis F. Allen. Vol. 2. Buffalo: Thomas & Lathrops.

We have received from the compiler a copy of this indispensable book to the American Short Horn cattle breeder. It is clean white paper, illustrated with fifty-eight wood engravings, mostly by J. W. Orr, of this city, from original drawings by J. R. Page and others, of living animals.

The whole number of pedigrees contained in the book, including the "produce" of registered cows, is about three thousand.

This volume supplies a void which has long been felt by the American cattle breeder, in tracing the Short Horn genealogy of this country back to its original stock. The English herd books are so expensive, and difficult to procure, and withal contain so few American pedigrees, that they can not be used to any extent on this side the Atlantic. A resort must therefore be had to domestic volumes.

Every Agricultural Society in the United States should have both volumes of the Herd Book, for the government of its Short Horn cattle committees; for without a full knowledge of the pedigrees and genealogy of the animals before them, it will be impossible for such committees to arrive at the true merits of what are brought before them.

The introductory notes contain matter of much interest to the breeder, historical and otherwise, which should be understood by all who intend to breed intelligently and correctly. As the edition is limited, it will be well for those wanting the work to lose no time in procuring it. Copies can be procured through the publishers of the Agriculturist. The price to non-subscribers is $6.

The Stable Book.—A Treatise on the Management of Horses, in relation to Stabling, Grooming, Feeding, Watering, and Working, Construction of Stables, Ventilation, Apppendages of Stables, Management of the Feet, and Management of Diseased and Defective Horses. By John Stewart, Veterinary Surgeon. With notes and additions adapting it to American Food and Climate. By A. B. Allen, editor of the American Agriculturist. New Edition, 378 pages. Price $1. C. M. Saxton & Co.

Reemelin's (Chas.) Vine-dresser's Manual.—An Illustrated Treatise on Vineyards and Wine-making, containing full instructions as to location and soil; preparation of ground; selection and propagation of vines; the treatment of a young Vineyard, trimming and training the vines; manures and the making of wine. Cloth, 50 cts. 102 pages. C. M. Saxton & Co.

New-York Horticultural Review, a new monthly. C. Reagles, New-York.

The Rabbit Fancier, a treatise upon the Breeding, Rearing, Feeding and general management of Rabbits, with remarks upon their Diseases and Remedies, drawn from authentic sources and personal observation, to which are added directions for hutches, feeding, cooking for table, &c. By C. N. Bement. C. M. Saxton & Co., New-York. 101 pages. Price 50 cents.

A Muck Manual for Farmers: a Treatise on the Physical and Chemical proportions of soils; the chemistry of Manures; including also the subject of composts, artificial manures, and Irrigation. By Samuel L. Dana. C. M. Saxton & Co., New-York. New Edition, 312 pages. Price $1.

Practical Husbandry, by Winslow C. Watson. A Prize Essay before the New-York State Agricultural Society, 1855. From B. P. Johnson, Secretary of the Society.

Cora and the Doctor; or Revelations of a Physicians Wife. J. P. Jewett & Co., Boston, Mass.; pp. 407.

Knickerbocker Magazine, for October. S. Hueston, Nassau-st., New-York. Full of racy and humerous good things; for proof, read Editor's Table.

National Magazine, for October. Carleton & Phillips, No. 200 Mulberry-st., New-York. Beautifully illustrated, and one of the best of its class.

Putnam's Magazine, for October. J. A. Dix, No. 10 Park-place, New-York. As usual, an excellent number.

Ladies' Repository, for October. Carleton & Phillips, New-York. Beautiful cuts of See-Saw, Mother and Son, and replete with valuable articles.

Household Words, for October. J. A. Dix, Park-place. Like its predecessors—good.

RIGHT VIEWS OF AGRICULTURE.

A clergyman in Illinois, who has cultivated a plot of ground to lengthen out his scanty income, and who never fails to have the American Agriculturist as a helper, writes us, in a recent letter inclosing his subscription: "I look upon progress in agriculture as one of the great and important means of developing, improving and elevating mankind in the scale of being; of promoting intelligence, which is the most efficient and important handmaid to religious improvement; and the science of cultivation should be fostered by every lover of his race."

Another clergyman, who was very active in getting out his parishioners to a course of lectures we were once giving, was questioned as to the reason of his activity, as he was not a farmer: "Why," said he, "if I can get all my agricultural hearers to reasoning upon their every-day work, they will be better Sunday reasoners; and if they can get better crops for the same labor, they will have more leisure for thinking and reading; they can educate their children better, and our whole community will be greatly improved if we can get one and a quarter spires of grass or wheat to grow where we get but one now. And more," said he; "if you can not look beyond a selfish motive, I can give you even that: If you get more crops in this parish, by giving a little attention to the science of agriculture, then you can increase my salary. So you see I am every way interested in making better farmers of my parishioners."

MULES VERSUS HORSES.

Mr. William Ebbets, the Superintendant of the Sixth-avenue Railroad stables in this city, gives us the experience of that company, leading to the conclusion that for labor at ordinary rates of speed, mules are preferable to horses. These hybrids may be put to labor younger than horses, being as fit for service at three years old as horses are at five. They are less liable to the accidents of disease, so that on an average they wear one-and-a-half times as long. The amount of feed they require is at least one-third less than that of horses of the same weight, performing the same work.

The horses and mules of the Company do an equal daily labor—the average travel is 16⅓ miles. Of hay they receive the same daily allowance eight pounds—but in the additional feed of meal, the mules receive but half as much as the horses, and yet, as any one may observe, keep in better order. For this reason the Company are substituting mules for horses as fast as may be. They pay, on an average, $300 per pair for mules, while the average for horses is not over $225. The expense of raising mules is no greater than that of other costs.

To offset economy in feed, mules can not compete with horses in point of speed. This is due in part to their smaller size, but mostly to difference in composition. The material of which a mule is made seems to be tougher, and less given to motion, so that with the effort a horse uses in making four miles an hour, a mule makes not more than three. Over-sized mules, as over-sized horses, do not wear well. The most economical weight for either animal is about eight or nine hundred pounds. A mule will draw a heavier load than a horse of the same weight.

The meal fed is composed of equal parts, by the bushel, of maize and oats ground together. Of this, a horse gets one hundred pounds a week, and a mule fifty pounds. The drivers prefer the horse-teams on account of their more stylish action.

To Loosen Glass Stoppers.—Let the head of the stopper rest against the edge of a wooden table, and tap the stopper lightly on the side in an upward direction with some light body—a small billet of wood is best for this. If this fail, expand the neck of the bottle by warming it in the flame of a lamp, continually revolving it to prevent its cracking, and then rap it gently as before. The most inveterate cases give way to careful heating.

PRESERVING FRUITS.

Fruit of almost every description may be preserved by packing in kiln-dried bran. Sand is frequently used for the same purpose; but it is a ponderous article, and on several accounts far less eligible than bran. Dr. Undereill, of the New-York Farmers' Club, stated, some years since, that a friend of his obtained a quantity of ground cork, in which grapes had been imported. He dried it thoroughly in a kiln, and packed some grapes in it, which kept sound and good till the following July. He also remarked that he had succeeded in preserving grapes in kiln-dried wheat bran, and that in preserving all fruits, they should be kept as cool as possible, without incurring danger from frost. The temperature, therefore, should never be below 32°, nor above 35°.

Mr. Hall, at one of the meetings of this Club, remarked that the Spanish export more grapes than all the rest of the world, and that they preserve them by packing them in kiln-dried oak saw-dust, and hermetically sealing the vessels in which they are deposited.

Noah Webster, of Lexicon and Spelling-book memory, was accustomed to preserve his apples in sand. Plaster of Paris is also had recourse to by many for the same purpose; but it is no less objectionable than the latter article, being heavy and difficult to handle. I had apples and pears preserved, said Mr. Hall, in an excellent state till August, in the following manner: As soon as the weather becomes cool, pick the fruit carefully from the boughs by hand, placing them one by one in a basket to prevent bruising. Spread them for a week or two in a cool place, and then envelop each apple closely in paper. Have a clean barrel, well lined with cotton batting or old newspapers, and pack in the enveloped fruit as closely as it can be placed; head the barrel carefully, and set it away, and they generally keep sound and good.—Germantown Telegraph.

KEEPING SWEET POTATOES.

The time is near at hand when sweet potatoes for next year's seed should be packed away for the winter, and this is a suitable time to give the results of our experience and observation.

Select fine days during the first and second weeks of October, and take the potatoes from the hills, carefully, so as not to bruise tham; let them dry thoroughly, but speedily, either in the sun, or spread upon a floor under cover. The boxes or bins for stowing will be in size according to the quantity you wish to keep, but in no case over two feet in depth.

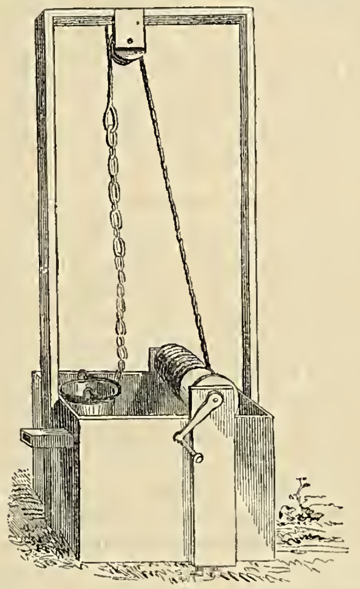
Gather a sufficient quantity of sand or fine road-dust, and have it thoroughly screened and dried. Put a thin layer of sand upon the bottom of the box, and lay in a course of potatoes from 8 to 12 inches thick, then pour in more sand until it fills all the interstices between the potatoes to the bottom of the box. When this is done, next fill up the box with potatoes, and then again pour on sand to fill up as before, and fasten on a cover to keep out mice if necessary. If several boxes are used, they may be piled on the top of each other, and in this case always with sticks to leave a space between of one or two inches to allow a free circulation of air.

In order to complete success in keeping, it is indispensable that the boxes be stored in a dry room, where a pretty uniform temperature can be maintained—the safest range being between 50° and 60°. A wider range, if not of too long duration, may not do much harm. Potatoes put up in this manner will not be subject to loss of over 5 to 10 per cent.

Sweet Potatoes for winter use can be preserved in much the same way, and will keep suitable for cooking all winter, with but a slight deterioration of quality. To keep them from the atmosphere—dry and of an equal moderate temperature, are the great requisites to complete success.—Ohio Cultivator.

For the American Agriculturist.

IMPROVED WELL CURB AND BUCKET.



Though excellent pumps for use in wells are abundant, many still prefer the "old fashioned bucket" and windlass; and occasionally a well is so deep that the use of the bucket affords by far the most convenient means for drawing the water.

The chief inconvenience that attends its use is, in lifting the bucket of water when raised to the mouth of the well, so as to empty the water into the pail or other vessel provided to receive it; and it is to obviate this difficulty that the above represented contrivance is proposed. One that has been in daily use some six or eight months is found to work well.

A box or curb, about three feet square, is made in the ordinary way, and to the opposite sides a frame is attached about 8 or 9 feet in hight, as represented in the figure; it is made of joist or scantling, 8 by 2 inches, and has a cross-piece at top of the same. The windlass is placed at right angles to this frame, and a little to the right of the center of the box, with the rope attached in the usual manner, its end passing over a roller above, and connecting with the chain of the bucket, as seen in the figure.

The spout inside the curb—which part is not shown in the figure—is made large enough to receive the bottom of the bucket, in which is placed a large valve with a projection downward, so that when the bucket is let down in the spout the valve is opened, and of course the water discharged. The mode of using will be obvious to all, as well as the advantage of the contrivance. The bucket is represented as standing in the spout; in the winter, after using, it should be let down into the well, to prevent the valve from being fixed by the ice. JAY JAY.

MIDDLETOWN, Conn.

TO PRESERVE PLUMS.—Make a syrup of clean brown sugar; clarify it; when perfectly clear and boiling hot, pour it over the plums, having picked out all unsound ones and stems; let them remain in the syrup two days, then drain it off; make it boiling hot, skim it, and pour it over again; let them remain another day or two, then put them in a preserving kettle over the fire, and simmer gently until the syrup is reduced, and thick or rich. Small damsons are very fine preserved as cherries or any other ripe fruit; clarify the syrup, and when boiling hot put in the plums; let them boil very gently until they are cooked, and the syrup rich. Put them in pots or jars; the next day secure as directed.

DRIED PEACHES.—Peaches as usually dried are a very good fruit; but can be made vastly better if treated in the right way. Last season the recipe which had quite a circulation in the papers, of drying the fruit by a stove after halving it and sprinkling a little sugar into the cavity left by the extracted pits, was tried in our family. The fruit was found to be most excellent; better to the taste of nine out of ten persons than any peach preserves, by far. The peaches, however, were good ones before drying; for it is doubtful whether poor fruit can be made good by that proccss or any other.—Prairie Farmer.

DRYING PUMPKINS AND MAKING PIES.—Cut them up and stew them till they are soft and dry; pound and strain through a cullender; then grease pie-pans, and spread it on a quarter of an inch thick and dry it; roll it up, and put it away in a tight box, or bag, from the insects. Each one of these rolls will make a pie. It is very easy now to make a pie. Put it in sweet milk, and let it soak about two hours; put in an egg, a table-spoonful of sugar, a tea-spoonful of ginger, and one of allspice; and if you are lovers of pumpkin pie, as we are, you will pronounce it good.—Ohio Farmer.

The Winchester bushel, which is the one in use in the United States, contains 2,150.42 cubic inches, struck measure; heaped measure, it contains 1,815 cubic inches.

A cord of wood is 128 solid feet in the United States; in France, 576 feet.

Eat sparingly, and defy the physician

FURNITURE—PEACHES—WASHING.

One who subscribes herself "Not a Young Housekeeper," sends to the Michigan Farmer sundry hints, from which we extract the following:

Care of Furniture.—Though we may not all have our houses "handsomely furnished," yet who, with correct notions and truly refined taste, would not prefer a neatly swept domestic carpet, with a few articles of plain, well-kept, old-fashioned furniture, nicely arranged, to a more expensively furnished room, where the dust is suffered to accumulate in the veins of the carved mahogany, or finger prints visible upon the tables, and the colors of the carpet dull for want of thorough sweeping? In these days, when Elizabethian and chay-flower furniture is so much sought after, let us, if we do not choose to purchase new, take care of our old; which, though not dating quite back to the time of our Pilgrim Fathers, has still much of that richness of hue only acquired by age; good old things, *always look good*, and the older the better. It is well to clean up every article of furniture as often as once a year, besides thoroughly rubbing daily, with a silk duster. Take soft water and a cloth and wash off a small piece at a time, following with a dry cloth immediately; then take a little boiled linseed oil, such as is used by painters, or sweet oil will do, and with a bit of flannel rub well in all over the article, and rub dry with an old piece of silk; should there be any rough spots, they should be rubbed down with a bit of emery or fine sand paper before oiling. Should you choose still to improve its appearance, you may varnish—taking care not to lay it on too heavily and to brush with the grain. White spots upon tables caused by heat, may be removed by adding a little turpentine to the oil, and warming the flannel you rub with. It is better to wait a few days after oiling before varnishing. For a dollar and a half you may supply yourself with brush, varnish, oil, turpentine and emery-paper enough to furbish all the furniture in a house. When the varnish becomes too thick, add a little turpentine. Clean your brush by washing off the varnish in turpentine, and pour it into the varnish bottle; with care, a brush will last a long time.

Peaches.—As the season for this delicious fruit has now arrived, I would ask those who have not before done so, to try other than rich sugar sweetmeats. One excellent way is to prepare the fruit when ripe as you would for preserving. Take to one pint of the very best vinegar, two pounds of sugar—if you wish to have it very rich to keep a year; otherwise a pound and a half of sugar—let it dissolve; boil and skim; then throw in fruit enough to cover the surface; boil slowly; when done skim out and drain; put in more, and so on, till you have what the syrup will cover in your jar; as you lay the fruit in, scatter to your taste cloves, cinnamon and mace, broken in bits rather than ground; pour the syrup over boiling hot, and you will have a jar of delicious "spiced peaches." For variety, it is nice to crack and blanche a part of the peach nuts and boil with the syrup, half a tea-cupful is sufficient for a gallon jar.

Pickled Peaches.—Take good peaches, ripe, but not too mellow, wipe with a coarse cloth, set in each peach three cloves, and lay them in your jar. Take of good vinegar one gallon, and two pounds of sugar; boil and skim; then pour over the fruit and set it away. In about a week drain off the pickle and when boiling pour over again; keep it in a cool place, well covered. In this way they will generally keep without any trouble; but sometimes I have found it necessary to attend to them again; the season may be unfavorable, or the vinegar not the best; then I drain off the vinegar into a bright brass kettle, and scald thoroughly all the fruit in the boiling vinegar fifteen or twenty minutes, that the stones may be well heated; when the fruit is done, let the vinegar be boiled down till quite rich, and then poured over.

Washing Preparation.—Of all the preparations I have used, and they have been numerous, I give the preference to the following: Put one pound of saltpetre into a gallon of water and keep it in a corked jug; two table-spoonsful for a pint of soap, soak, wash and boil as usual. This bleaches the clothes beautifully without injuring the fabric. It is particularly valuable for removing grass stains from the knees of the little boys' pantaloons.

A Cheap Ice-House.—Mr. Marks, in the Rural New-Yorker, says that on dry ground, where surface water will not stand, make a box ten feet square, by setting scantling on end, and boarding up the outside. Cover the box with a single roof. On the ground in the bottom of the box put saw-dust to the depth of one foot. On this place some boards loosely, and in the center of the box build a cube of ice eight feet square, which will leave a space of one foot on each side. Fill this space and cover the top with saw-dust. Over the saw-dust on the high side of the box leave a board off for ventilation. This costs but a trifle, and will hold ice enough to fully supply two moderate sized families.

Watermelon Butter.—Split the watermelons open, with a spoon scrape out the pulp into a cullender, and strain the water into vessels; boil it down to syrup; then put in apples or peaches, like making apple-butter or any kind of preserves. Or, the syrup may be boiled without fruit down to molasses, which will be found to be as fine as the best sugar-house molasses.

Stacking Cornstalks.—A correspondent of the Boston Cultivator has tried various methods of curing his cornstalks, but without satisfactury success. Last fall after the stalks were sufficiently cured, he carted them into the barn, and instead of setting them up, as formerly, he packed them down, and on every layer of stalks put a layer of fine salt, say a bushel to a tun. The cattle eat them up clean, and he is satisfied with the result.

Apple Jelly.—Take apples of the best quality and good flavor, (not sweet,) cut them in quarters or slices, and stew them till soft; then strain out the juice, being very careful not to let any of the pulp go through the strainer. Boil it to the consistency of molasses; then weigh it, and add as many pounds of sugar, stirring in constantly until the sugar is dissolved. Add one ounce of extract of lemon to every twenty pounds of jelly, and when cold, set it away in jars. It will keep good for years. Those who have not made jelly in this way will do well to try it. They will find it superior to currant jelly.—Michigan Farmer.

How to Cut a Shirt.—Grandmother says there is a rule for everything. I suppose there is. I have a rule for cutting a shirt by the yard stick for a common-sized man. Make the body one yard long; if the muslin is a yard wide, take a quarter of a yard off the side; this will make the gussets, collar, wristbands, facings, &c.; cut the lining for the back 17 inches deep, collar 16½ inches long, sleeves 20 inches long; a yard wide will just make the two sleeves and wristbands, 8½ inches long.—Ohio Farmer.

Why Butter is Dear.—There is a fine pasture all over the country now, and the price of butter ought to be down to a shilling a pound. Why isn't it? Because the women and girls don't know how to make it. For twenty years past the girls' butter-making education has been sadly neglected. They can play the piano, but can not churn; can dance, but can not skim milk; can talk a little French, but don't know how to work out the buttermilk. The women who made the butter in Westchester, Duchess and Orange Counties twenty years ago, are passing away, and there are none to take their places. That's why butter is high.—Day Book.

Maltese Goats.—A correspondent of the Soil of the South, who is now raising a flock of Maltese Goats, thinks the subject eminently worthy the attention of stock raisers. He milks from 8 to 17 cows; and his goats, he says, average as much milk as his cows. The milk is most delicate and delicious. These goats are not mischievous, nor do they possess that strong musk flavor peculiar to the common goat. Among them is a sucking kid, which has never had any young, that gives a quart of milk every night. The Maltese goat is of large size, has long hair and is fully formed. The writer is opinion that a cross with the Cashmere goat could produce an animal that would combine milk and fine wool.

Grasshopper Traps.—In our rides in the grasshopper country, says the California Farmer, we saw thousands of the deep holes which had been dug in the earth by the Indians, to entrap their luxurious (?) food. These holes contain about a bushel and a half, and we believe we saw holes enough in Yuba, Butte and Sutter Counties, to have collected 50,000 bushels of grasshoppers! The Indians will grow fat this winter.

BARGAINS AND TRADE.

L. T. E. gives the following hints, in the Michigan Farmer, some of which are worthy of special remembrance :

Every farmer ought to be so much of a business-man as to turn his earnings to good account. Some are always "under the weather," not so much for lack of industry as of calculation. Some others have frequent difficulties with those with whom they have business, and arrive at the conclusion that the whole world is dishonest, whereas the fault is mainly with themselves. Yet a few examples, thoroughly observed, will go very far towards helping any one to do his business in a way that shall be satisfactory both to himself and others.

1. Try to have every thing you would sell of the best quality. Your wheat well cleaned; your pork and beef well fatted; butter well worked and sweet; and cheese so yielding as not to break a hatchet in cutting it. Try to get and keep the best horses, cattle and sheep, at least of the common kinds.

2. When you sell, tell the proposed purchaser just what the good qualities and defects of the creature or article are. In nine cases out of ten it will save you both time and money. A man of sense, who is *sure* that he knows precisely what he is buying, will pay a round price; whereas, if he suspects that in some way he will be deceived, he will either refuse to buy, or guard himself by offering a lower price. "Honesty is the best policy."

3. Unless you are *really* a far seeing, independent farmer, who, if you please, can hold on one, two, or five years even, for your price, sell when you can get a *fair* price and sure pay. It is bad policy to sell on credit to a slack or doubtful man, and the history of forty years will show, that two lose to where one gains by holding on in order to get the very top of the market. If your neighbor does this, and beats you this season, never mind it, keep cool, and in due time the tables will be turned.

4. If you mean to be a substantial farmer, beware of getting the name of being "keen and sharp for a trade." Now, young man, my head is gray, and during the last forty years I have become acquainted with many business-men. I will not now argue the morality of my position. This you admit. I now present it only in the light of comfort and profit. Never get the name of being sharp for a bargain. I will tell you. A sharp fellow often loses a dollar while contriving to get a sixpence. The time he spends in trying to secure something beyond the just and fair thing, is worth more than what he gets. When you have cut to the quick a few of your neighbors in this way, you will find that, somehow, they neither care much for you nor your trades. My rule, and that of thousands, is, when I have once been taken in by such a man, never, if I can avoid it, to deal with him again. A sharp fellow, before he is aware of it, is a marked man. He loses vastly more than he gains.

5. Be careful not to be higgling and mean. You can not take too much pains to become a judge of the quality and price of every thing that you have occasion to buy or sell. When you have learned this, then if you purchase you will not be imposed upon. When you sell you will know what price to set, and not fall from it. But when you have sold a cow, for all she is worth, do not make the purchaser pay you a shilling for a rope to lead her. Do the "fair thing," so that he will not be afraid to call again.

6. Never partly make a bargain, and leave it unfinished or doubtful as to your intentions. I have known men to say just enough to claim a bargain, if times go favorable, or to have an excuse for backing out, if they choose. If there be an offense for which I would send a man to work a month on the tread-mill, it is this. Says such a man, "I like your horse, and have pretty much concluded to take him at your price, but—I will see you again." "Well, I am to be seen, but if I have an offer before you are out of sight, I shall sell him." "Well, won't you keep him for me, unless somebody will pay more?" "No sir—I ask only what my animal is worth. I do not want any more; and shall sell him the first opportunity." Now, my young friend, shun all such tricks as you would the cholera. If you have a thought of thriving by higgling, and trickery, and meanness, you may conclude that, as it *is* mean, you can not respect even yourself. It is wrong, and whatever you may hope, "it will not pay."

7. Cheap penny-worths obtained by running from store to store, to make cheap purchases, beating down prices, and telling what you have done, or can do, at other stores, will not pay. Merchants are used to all this. If you are a troublesome customer they will accommodate you by setting prices for you or your "better half" to beat down, and intend not only that you shall pay as much profit as a quiet customer, but that you shall also pay them for their extra trouble in suiting you. If you find a merchant who deals honestly and fairly by you, though you do sometimes pay a half cent a pound more for brown sugar or saleratus, never mind, you will find it most profitable in the long run, to deal with him. But if he is not honest, never flatter yourself that you can keep him straight. Leave him quietly, and try elsewhere. Never "Jew" or banter your merchant. If he be the right man he will ask the fair price at first; and if not, leave him. This rule, of course, has its limitations; but my experience for many years, of taking or leaving, and never "Jewing," has saved both me and the merchants much vexation; and I have been able to purchase as low as the sharpest and shrewdest and—*a little lower.*

A farmer in south-western Ohio being asked if the rain had done much damage, replied—"O yes; the ears of corn are now so long and heavy that they reach entirely across the rows, very much impeding navigation in the fields, and will break our backs to get them into the wagon." Truly the country is in a dreadful condition.

HOG POPULATION OF CINCINNATI.

What crocodiles were in Egypt, what cows are in Bengal, or storks in Holland, pigs are in Cincinnati, with this trifling difference, their sacredness of character lasts but as long as their mortal coil; and this is abbreviated without ceremony, and from the most worldly motives. In life, the pig, if free, is honored; he ranges the streets, he reposes in thoroughfares, he walks beneath your horse's legs, or your own; he is everywhere respected; but let the thread of his existence be severed, and, shade of Mahomet, what a change! They think in Cincinnati of nothing but making the most of him. How many of his kind perish annually to cement the vast prosperity of the city of hogs can scarcely be told. About 20 years ago Cincinnati contained only one-fifth of its existing population. A few bold speculators began the trade. Selecting the hams and sides of the animals, they made pickled pork; of the rest they took small account. Soon, however, the idea occurred to one more acute than his fellows, and the head and the feet—nay, even the spine and the vertebræ—might be turned to account; trotters and cheeks had their partisans, and these parts looked up in the market. About this time the makers of sausages caught the inspiration. They found these luxuries saleable, and so many pigs were to be slaughtered that the butchers were willing to do it for nothing; that is to say, for the perquisite of the entrials and offal alone. The next step was due to the genius of France. A Frenchman established a brush manufactory, and created a market for the bristles, but his ingenuity was outdone by one of his countrymen, who soon after arrived. This man was determined, it seems, to share the spoil; and, thinking nothing else left, collected the fine hair or wool, washed, dried, and combed it, and stuffed mattresses with it. But he was mistaken in thinking nothing else left. As but little was done with the lard, they invented machines, and squeezed oil out of it; the refuse they threw away. Mistaken men again. The refuse was the substance of stearine candles, and made a fortune to the discoverer of the secret. Lastly came one who could press chemistry to the service of mammon; he saw the blood of countless swine flow through the gutters of the city; it was all that was left of them, but it went to his heart to see it thrown away: he pondered long, and then, collecting the stream into reservoirs, made prussiate of potash from it by the tun. The pig was thus used up, and nothing else was left to turn to profitable account. A large trade is carried on in sausage-skins; the entrails and bladders fetch a good price. The congealed grease, forming the lard of commerce, is in extensive use for culinary purposes, for perfumery, ointments, salves, &c. The oil expressed from lard is chiefly used for burning, for lubricating machinery, and generally as a substitute for olive and other oils.—MR. P. L. SIMMONDS, in the *Quarterly Journal of Agriculture*.

To leave your son a fortune—educate him.

RIPENING OF APPLES AND PEARS.

There are, in the following article from the Gensee Farmer, several good hints which are applicable to the season:

To have sound and perfect apples through the winter months, it is absolutely necessary that much care should be given in gathering. This should be deferred with the winter fruit as late as practicable and avoid early severe frosts. The fruit should be picked from the tree by means of ladders, and placed in baskets, when it should be assorted and packed at once carefully in new tight barrels. These barrels, after heading, should be removed on sleds to a shed through which the air circulates freely, or they might be protected easily from the dew and rain by placing boards over them. They may be allowed to remain in this situation a week or more, or until the cold is too severe, when they should be transferred to a cool, dry cellar, and into which air may be admitted in mild weather. The barrels should then be placed in tiers upon their sides, numbering upon each head the quality of the fruit contained in the barrel, and the name. The small imperfect but sound fruit is treated in the same manner, and marked No. 2, indicating an inferior sort. Apples which are intended for market are frequently assorted into three different classes, the *best*, *good*, and *inferior*—the former being all selected fruit; the *good* containing sound fruit of medium or small specimens; the third being so poor that the fruit is wholly unfit for market, and suitable only for stock or immediate family use. All of this is easily done, yet many whole orchards bring but an inferior price for want of this care.

Too often we find that winter apples are left upon the tree very late in the autumn, frequently till they have been exposed to two or three severe frost; when convenient they are shaken from the trees, the good and bad poured into barrels or open wagons, of perhaps half a dozen sorts. Afterwards they are emptied promiscuously into bins, barrels, or open boxes, where they are expected to keep well through winter. This is a most ruinous method, yet it is practised by at least three-fourths of the farmers; or they adopt another course equally as wasteful in securing the fruit.

Fully one-half is lost by this method of gathering, as the fruit ripens prematurely and decays rapidly by being bruised. The decay is very much hastened where several sorts are mixed promiscuously together, ripening at as many different seasons. Those kinds, too, which do not come to maturity till late in the winter or early in the spring, are turned and handled many times when assorting those which are in season during November and December.

Light is found unfavorable to the keeping of fruit, and should be excluded; and it is often noticed that where fruit, particularly pears, is placed in a room above ground, and oftentimes in a very dry cellar, and left exposed to the air they shrivel. They should therefore be kept either in barrels or tight boxes. About the time pears are needed for use they can be removed to a room of higher temperature and kept as closely as before in drawers or boxes, where they will ripen very speedily, and will possess much finer flavor than if allowed to ripen in a cooler place. By treating pears in this way, one variety can be made to last a long time.

Summer pears ought to be gathered a week before ripe; early autumn kinds about ten days or more; late fall and winter varieties ought to be allowed to hang upon the trees as long as they may and escape frost.

There is yet very much to learn in ripening winter pears well, more particularly the late sorts. But few orchadists are there who have been successful in ripening such sorts as *Easter Beurre*, *Josephine de Malines*, *Prince's St. Germain*, and many other late winter kinds. In fact, it is found almost impossible with the fruit rooms, conveniences, and cellars now in ordinary use. Some few enterprising persons in this country have expended considerable sums in buildings, etc., to ripen winter sorts, and in the main succeed well; but it is quite useless for farmers and many others to plant trees of such varieties of fruits that require so much care in ripening, unless they are prepared to embark into it extensively, erect the necessary buildings, and give close attention to it; then it will pay and prove quite remunerative; otherwise all trials or experiments will be quite unsatisfactory.

BRAHMA POOTRAS AS USEFUL POULTRY.

The Poultry Chronicle says that as a correspondent, who does not wish to have his letter published, would like to know what we think of the Brahmas (leaving the somewhat over-discussed but unanswerable question of their origin), we will speak of their faults and their merits as useful domestic poultry.

The hardiness of their constitution, and the rapidity with which the chickens grow, and the manner in which they thrive, even under unfavorable circumstances, greatly increase the value of these fowls in our ever-varying climate. In our experience, with rather a large stock, we have found them good and *regular* layers of fine, large-sized eggs. After laying immensely throughout the autumn months, they discontinued towards winter, and re-commenced in January. From that time to the present they have laid exceedingly well. All the hens except one, which has not been broody, have set and brought up chickens during the spring, and one only became broody a second time. The Cochins have, in the same period, most of them set three times, and from this cause have laid a smaller number of eggs than the Brahmas. From one Brahma hen, which was noticed particularly—because, from her beauty, it was thought desirable to get all her eggs hatched—thirty-five chickens were reared, seventeen eggs were spoiled when set, from the intensely cold weather and other causes, and about a dozen were other ways made use of. After laying these eggs she set, and is still with her chickens, now a month old. She did not begin to lay regularly until the first of March, as, after laying six eggs in January, she was put off her laying by a little indisposition, which kept her back until that time. Some which began earlier, and have laid since rearing their broods, have produced more eggs, but, being less admired, no exact account has been kept of their doings.

We have found the Brahmas excellent mothers to their own chickens, but rather spiteful to those belonging to other hens. They often begin to lay when the chickens are five or six weeks old, but sometimes not so soon.

From its hardiness, and the ease with which it accommodates itself to the inclemencies of our climate, we reckon the Brahma the most valuable fowl which has ever been introduced among us; for when more delicate sorts are pining and dying off, and at times all kinds are suffering more or less from cold and wet, we have noticed the Brahmas alone continue brisk, happy, and healthy.

VITALITY OF SEEDS.

The vitality of seeds, under favorable circumstances, according to Schenck's Gardener's Text Book, can be depended upon for the following periods:

Parsnip, Rhubarb—and other thin scaly seeds—for one year.

Balm, Basil, Beans, Cardoon, Carrot, Cress, Indian Cress, Lavender, Leek, Okra, Onion, Peas, Pepper, Rampion, Sage, Salsify, Savory, Scorzonera, Thyme, Tomato, Wormwood—and small herbs generally—for two years.

Artichoke, Asparagus, Corn Salad, Egg-Plant, Endive, Indian Corn, Lettuce, Marigold, Marjoram, Mustard, Parsley, Rosemary, Rue, Skirret, Spinach, and Tansey—for three years.

Borage, Borecole, Brocoli, Brussels Sprout, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Radish, Sea Kale, Tarragon, and Turnip—for four years.

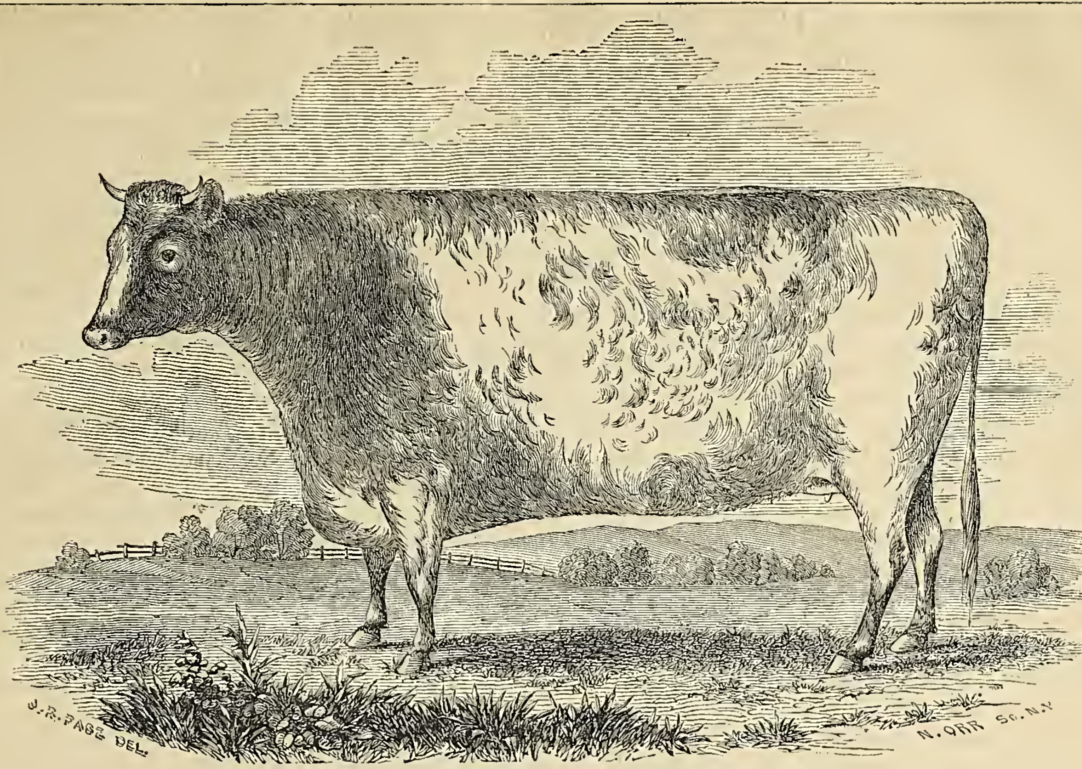
Beet, Burnet, Celery, Chervil, Cucumber, Dill, Fennel, Hyssop, Melon, Pumpkin, Sorrel, and Squash—from five to eight or ten years.

What Illinois Farmers Clear.—Col. Warren, who resides at Island Grove, in the interior of this State, has made a close calculation of the net profits of his crops, per acre, for the present year. He states that, after deducting all expenses for cultivating, harvesting, &c., his wheat sown yields him a profit of $20 per acre, and his corn, estimating the yield, and price at 15 cents a bushel, $11 per acre.

Mr. Constant, another farmer of that region, estimates his average profit at $17 per acre, of all grain cultivated, while $15, it is supposed, may be considered a fair average of profit per acre, throughout the State.

Chicago Dem.

A Prairie Investment.—A year ago a man purchased forty acres of prairie land six miles from Bloomington, McKean County, Illinois, broke it up and put in fall wheat. The produce was 1,100 bushels of first quality Genesee wheat, which he sold for $1,565. The expense of fencing, breaking up, seed, sowing, harvesting, threshing, &c., was $500—leaving a net profit of $1,065.


J. R. PAGE DEL.
N. ORR SC. N.Y.

ALTHEA.—Color Roan.

Winner of first prize in class of Yearling Short Horn Heifers at the Exhibition of the New-York State Agricultural Society, 1854.

Bred and owned by Samuel T. Taber, Chestnut Ridge, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

Got by Backwoodsman, (see vol. ii, A. H. B.)
1. Dam Aurora 2d, by East Windsor (56).
2. Aurora by North American (6253).
3. Atlanta by Enchanter (3729).
4. Adeline by Young Comet (3437).
5. Emma by Wellington (683).
6. Annabella by Major (398).
7. Ada by Denton (198).
8. Aurora by Comet (155).
9. ——— by Henry (301).
10. ——— by Danby (190).

CROSSING SHEEP.

Samuel Armsby, in a communication to the Mark-Lane Express, discourses thus:

For upwards of fifty years I have seen a great deal of crossing the different kinds of sheep—Leicesters with Leicesters, Leicesters with Cotswolds, Leicesters with South-Downs, and Leicesters with many other kinds of sheep. I have always found the Bakewell or Leicester sheep to improve every kind they have been put to, by giving them the Bakewell barrel form, small bone, and to feed at early maturity. The first cross in most animals has been proved the best; the next cross generally produces size and weight, except you put a gigantic animal to the first cross; when I say gigantic, I do not mean an animal made a giant with fat flesh, with the head and ears of a dwarf upon him—I mean a giant in frame when in a lean state, with bone in proportion, aye, and a head and ears in proportion to his body—a long, thin head, and not a gigantic broad one. Giants do not produce dwarfs, neither do dwarfs produce giants, any more than bulldogs produce greyhounds. It has been proved that a gigantic ram has been produced from a dwarf ewe; at the same time, it was proved that a giant ram lay in the adjoining field, which very easily accounted for the giant being produced from a dwarf. It has always been said that like produces like, and a fine bone denotes a feeding propensity, and a long face and ears, with a Roman nose, denotes a large breed. The breeders of Lincolnshire sheep say that neither the Cotswold nor the Downs mix well with their heavy-wooled sheep, but a dip of the Leicester does wonders. So says the far-famed Mr. Kirkham of Hagnaby. Mr. Bakewell always said that extremes were bad, and that the middle-sized animals answer the best for profits. But, above all things, said Mr. B., let an animal's make be in proportion—not very large in one point, and very deficient in another. Size has nothing to do with profit; it was not what an animal made, so much as what it cost making. The Lincolnshire farmers are second to no men in the improvement of waste lands; the Wolds, Lincoln Heath, and the Fens, for instance; the lower parts are now drained by steam engines. And the breed of sheep which they have is the most profitable for their county.

FEEDING CORN IN THE EAR.

A very intelligent Irishman tells the following incident of his first experience in America:

I came to this country several years ago, and as soon as I arrived hired out to a gentleman who farmed a few acres. He showed me over the premises, the stables, cows and where the corn, hay, oats, &c., were kept, and then sent me in to get my supper. After supper he said to me: "James, you may feed the cow, and give her *corn in the ear*."

I went out and walked about, thinking, "what could he mean? Had I understood him?" I scratched my head, then resolved I would inquire again; so I went into the library, where master was writing very busily and he answered without looking up—

"I thought I told you to give the cow some corn *in the ear*."

I went out more puzzled than ever. What sort of animal must this Yankee cow be? I examined her mouth and ears. The teeth were good, and the ears like those of kine in the old country. Dripping with sweat I entered my master's presence once more.

"Please, sir, you bid me give the cow some corn *in the ear*, but didn't you mean in the *mouth*!"

He looked at me a moment, and then burst into such a convulsion of laughter, I made for the stables as fast as my feet could take me, thinking I was in the service of a crazy man.

Death Among Cattle.—A mortal disease, says an Exchange, has recently made its appearance among the cattle at Long Pond, on the mountain, about the conjunction of the County corners of Columbia, Sullivan and Luzerne. In one day they found 27 dead cattle in the woods on the mountain! The disease by which so many have met their death, is supposed to have originated from some impurities drank from the stagnant pools, without being accessible to any pure water.

Acorns.—M. Duplat, a French chemist, has succeeded in utilizing the acorn, by extracting from it both oil and alcohol—half a pound of oil, and five pounds of alcohol, applicable to chemical purposes, having been produced from 100 lbs. of acorns.

The Rockingham (Va.) Register boasts of tomatoes raised by Conrad H. Kite, Esq., on Shenadoah river, which weigh 3 pounds, and calls upon Mr. Anybody to beat that if he can.

FAIR LADIES, AND LADIES AT THE FAIR.

Every man who takes an interest in the approaching State Fair, feels the importance of enlisting the Ladies in its behalf. They can do a great deal towards its success. There are so many ways in which they can exert influence on public opinion and engage the active sympathies of the community in favor of the Fair, that it is scarcely possible for us to exaggerate the aid which they can render, in their own sphere to the enterprise. The hand of woman is not strong and rough like the hand of man, but it can more easily touch the heart of the world and inspire it to action. A woman's thought is always contagious; it is quickly communicated and sure to reproduce itself in whatever form it may operate. The main thing that we want in connection with the Fair is, the energetic support of the public, and we are confident that the enthusiasm of the ladies will be essential to secure this end. No one doubts that the movement will be of vast service to the State. It already has the judgment and approbation of the people on its side. But judgment and approbation, though excellent in their way, are not the working forces that move mankind. What we need is a living, generous, ardent impulse infused into it—just such an impulse as comes from the household where woman reigns.

Apart from this general relation to the movement, our ladies can contribute directly to its advancement by the preparation of articles of taste and utility for the exhibition. Modern industry has so much enlarged their field of activity, that they can show skill and ingenuity in various connections. The needle is now an instrument of genius and art, as well as of humble, domestic service. In some hands it is as creative as the chisel of the sculptor or the pencil of the painter. Our ladies fully understand what can be done in this particular, and as there is a special department in the forthcoming exhibition for the display of their handiwork, we hope that it will present a large array of such objects as gratify the eye of taste and the sense of the beautiful. A word, too, in behalf of the homelier things of household economy. If these are not branches of Art in its legitimate sense, they nevertheless afford a constant exercise for the best of common-sense. No woman of mind feels that her talents are either wasted or unprofitably employed in the offices of home-life. To be a first-rate housekeeper is not beneath the ambition of any sensible and noble woman. It is her business—as much so as it is for man to engage in mechanical, mercantile, or professional pursuits. To view it as a menial thing—a drudgery, is to put contempt on God's law for the practice of industry and the formation of character. Happily for us, our southern women generally appreciate this part of their duty; and, so far as our observation extends, there is a growing disposition to increase the comfort and attraction of their homes. Domestic economy is certainly receiving more attention than formerly. There is more thought bestowed on it; and as a necessary consequence, our modes of living, even with the same outlay, are much more delightful. We trust that the State Fair will bear testimony to their zeal in this matter. It will be observed that the Committee has offered prizes in this department, and we should be glad to see a general competition for them. By all means, let us have the Dairy and the Pantry fully represented. A woman's art, if skilfully exercised, can make the most common article of daily life a luxury. She has genius enough to dignify and adorn any thing that her hand touches, and, for our part, we shall be dissatisfied with any sort of a State Fair, if our women do not distinguish themselves in it. Pray, then, ladies of Georgia, take hold of this enterprise with the warmth of your heart in every finger, and let it be a close, firm, unyielding grasp. Do all you can to promote its success. Our men will make it represent the farm, the field, the factory, but let us beg, that you strive to render it a fit exponent of Georgia Life in the person and pride of woman.—Southern Times.

LANGUAGE OF ANIMALS.

We make the following extracts from an article on this subject in Putnam's Magazine:

How easily spiders are made to know the voice of their master, is familiar to all, from many a sad prisoner's tale. When the great and brilliant Lauzun was held in captivity, his only joy and comfort was a friendly spider. She came at his call; she took her food from his finger, and well understood his word of command. In vain did jailors and soldiers try to deceive his tiny companion. She would not obey their voices, and refused the tempting bait from their hand. Here, then, was an ear not only, but a keen power of distinction. The despised little animal listened with sweet affection, and knew how to discriminate between not unsimilar tones. So it was with the friend of the patriot, Quatermere d'jionville, who paid, with captivity, for the too ardent love of his country. He also had tamed spiders and taught them to come at his call. For, when the French invaded Holland, the prisoner managed to send them a message, that the inundated and now impassable country would soon be frozen over so that they would be able to march over the ice-bridged swamps and lakes, for the spiders, true barometers as they are, had taught him to read, in their queer habits, the signs of approaching weather. The frost came, and with it the French; Holland was taken, and the lucky prophet set free. The spiders, alas, were forgotten.

Even the "hateful toad" has been the captvie's friend and companion, and shown itself endowed with a fine ear and remarkable talents. They come out of the dark night of their holes, when their self-chosen master's voice is heard. They take flies from his hand; but what is the strangest of all, they actually learn to measure time; for more than one well-authenticated instance speaks of their having appeared only at stated times, when the jailor was absent and all was safe.

* * * * * *

The language which animals speak, by means of friction or concussion, is naturally the least known of all. We see the eager ant rushing homeward to tell the news of an invasion; she meets a friend, their antennæ touch and play with each other, in rapid succession. The messenger returns, the latter conveys the news by the same means to others, until the whole army is informed. Here we see, not an instinctive feeling of dread, but a clear, undoubted communication of facts. So among bees; the instant the queen dies, the sad event is made known throughout the hive. No sound, perceptible to human ear, is heard, but the antennæ move with surprising effect, and, as the result of a clear act of volition. It is not a sensation, merely, nor an instinctive action, but it has all the signs of special purpose. How they speak, we know not; this only is certain, that their language is not like that of the deaf and dumb, with whom signs represent letters or words.

The cricket, even, is not without its note of utterance, and although a purely mechanical sound, it has its sweetness and charm, so that Milton could speak of being—

> "Far from all resorts of mirth
> Save the cricket on the hearth."

It produces a loud, clear sound, by a quick vibration of the elastic skin between its wings; and from the time when the Athenians wore golden cicada in their hair, to our days, when the cricket on the hearth is the proverbial image of home comfort, its simple note has been dear to the heart of man. The true cricket, however, speaks only in the sunny time of love. The male begins in his hermit-cell, as May approaches, to produce a low, inward note of longing. As the sun rises higher, and summer advances, his shrill song becomes louder, until he finds the desired companion. Then he returns to his solitary life once more, and his voice dies away by degrees. Dean Swift has left us a humorous description of the curious note of the death-watch beetle. The little fellow, in his narrow cell, falls in love; immediately begins to thump his head against the ground, and uses such energy in his demonstrations that he leaves deep marks in the softer kinds of wood. The powerful stroke produces a loud sound, the infallible presage of death to superstitious man, the soft music of love to the female beetle. If other males are within hearing, they all join in the concert with furious knocking, and such is their jealousy or zeal to answer, that even the ticking of an innocent watch excites their wrath and their loudest notes.

The Loves of the Spider.—Did the reader ever watch the terrible coquetry of the female spider? We say terrible, for it is a perilous game for the young gentleman; if he misinterprets her looks and actions, if his vanity or the thoughtlessness of youth induce him to imagine he has inspired a passion deeper than coquetry, she does not, as our coquettes do, draw up her head and coolly declare "there must be some mistake," but pounces on the unlucky coxcomb, and slays him on the spot! Prescient of such a possibility, it is wonderful to see how stealthily and humbly the gallant gay Lothario pays his court.

A LADY'S DIARY OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.

The following extract from the Journal of Queen Elizabeth Woodville, before her marriage with Sir John Grey, is taken from an ancient manuscript in Drummond Castle. It gives a curious picture of the great in former times. After Sir J. Grey's death, she became, in 1645, the Queen of Edward IV. On the accession of Henry VII., who had married her daughter, she was confined in the nunnery at Bermondsey, and died there, but was interred at Windsor:

Monday, 9th March.—Rose at four o'clock, and helped Catherine to milk the cows; Rachel, the other dairy maid, having scalded her hand in so bad a manner the night before; made a poultice for Rachel, and gave Robin a penny to get something comfortable from the apothecary's.

6 o'clock.—The buttock of beef too much boiled, and the beer a little of the stalest. Memorandum: To talk to cook about the first fault, and to mend the second myself by tapping a fresh barrel directly.

7 o'clock.—Went to walk with the lady, my mother, into the court-yard. Fed twenty-five men and women; chided Roger severely for expressing some ill-will at attending us with some broken meat.

8 o'clock.—Went into the paddock behind the house with my maid Dorothy; caught Thump, the little pony, myself, and rode a matter of six miles without saddle or bridle.

10 o'clock.—Dined. John Grey, a comely youth, but what is that to me? A virtuous maiden should be entirely under the direction of her parents. John ate but little, stole a great maney tender looks at me, and said—"Women could never be handsome, in his opinion, who were not good-tempered." I hope my temper is not intolerable; nobody finds fault with it but Roger, and he is the most disorderly serving-man in our family. John Grey likes white teeth; my teeth are of a pretty good color, I think; and my hair is as black as jet, though I say it; and John, if I mistake not, is of the same opinion.

11 o'clock.—Rose from the table, the company all desirous of walking in the fields; John Grey would lift me over every stile, and twice he squeezed my hand with great vehemence. I can not say that I should have any objection to John Grey; he plays at prison bars as well as any country gentleman, and he never misses church on Sundays.

3 o'clock.—Poor farmer Robinson's house burnt down by accidental fire. John Grey proposed a subscription for the benefit of the farmer, and gave no less than four pounds himself with this benevolent intent. Memorandum. Never saw him look so handsome as at that moment.

4 o'clock.—Went to prayers.

5 o'clock.—Fed the poultry.

7 o'clock.—Supper on the table; delayed in consequence of farmer Robinson's misfortune. Memorandum. The goose pie too much baked, and the pork roasted to rags.

9 o'clock.—The company fast asleep.—late hours very disagreeable. Said my prayers a second time, John Grey distracting my thoughts too much the first time. Fell asleep, and dreamed of John Grey.

DO SOMETHING.

There is no doubt that in some countries persons are found who are willing and able to work, but can really find nothing to do. The enterprise of the people is crushed by enormous taxes, and by the extortion of tyrannical rulers; and labor is so poorly paid for, as scarcely to supply the laborer with bread. But in our country it is far otherwise. Here all heads, and hands, and feet, with all the skill, and industry, and strength they can furnish, may find full employment and reasonable wages.

A man who has ordinary health and strength, and a knowedge of the simplest principles of farming, can soon secure the means of a comfortable support. While as rich land as there is on the globe, can be had for two or three dollars an acre; and while produce of every kind is in such wide and general demand, no man of enterprise, with but little means ahead, need be idle or poor.

If there is any country in the world where labor is rewarded, and where the laborer is protected in the possession and enjoyment of the fruits of his toil, that country is the United States of America.

These things being so, do our readers want to know why there are so many poor and unemployed persons about, and why so many who have seen prosperous days are now poverty-stricken, we can only say that every general principle has its exceptions. So long as our boys and young men are eager to wield the yardstick rather than the ax and the sledge, and are ambitious to measure tape rather than to raise wheat and corn, we shall have crowds of persons who complain that they have nothing to do, and some that, for want of better employment—will turn rogues.

We counsel our young friends to fix on some useful, gainful, and manly occupation, and not float down the stream of life like a chip or feather, to be turned thither by every flaw of wind or change of current.

We can not better express what we have to say than to use the words of the good Mr. Frelinghuysen of New-Jersey, who lately addressed some college lads as follows:

"Resolve to do something useful, honorable, dutiful, and to do it heartily. Repel the thought that you can, and therefore you may, live above work and without it. Among the most pitiable objects in society is the man whose mind has not been trained by the discipline of education; who has learned how to think, and the value of his immortal powers, and with all these noble faculties cultivated and prepared for an honorable activity, ignobly sits down to do nothing; with no influence over the public mind; with no interest in the concern of his country, or even in his neighborhood; to be regarded as a drone, without object or character, with no hand to lift, and no effort to put forth to help the right or defend the wronged. Who can think with any calmness of such a miserable career? And however it may be with you in active enterprise, never permit your influence to go into active hostility to the cause of truth and virtue. So live, that with the Christian poet, you may truthfully say that

"If your country stand not by your skill,
At least your follies have not wrought her ill."

UNCLE SAM'S FARM.

The American Union now embraces thirty-one States, seven organized Territories, and one unorganized Territory, (the Indian.) The total area of territory is estimated to be 2,946,166 square miles.* The limits of the United States, when their independence was achieved, did not exceed 820,680 square miles. Our territory doubled itself in the first twenty years of our national existence, and has increased over three-fold in less than sixty years. We have now a domain nearly ten times as large as that of Great Britain and France combined, three times as large as that of Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, Holland and Denmark, together; one and a half times as large as the Russian empire in Europe; one-sixth less only than the area of all Europe; of about equal extent with the Roman empire, or that of Alexander, neither of which, it is said, exceeded 3,000,000 square miles. The eight Territories include an area equal to that of the thirty-one States. Three hundred and eighty States of the size of Massachusetts, or two thousand three hundred as large as Rhode Island, might be carved out of the national area. The slaveholding States have 851,598 sqare miles, and the non-slaveholding States, 612,597. North of the old Missouri compromise line, there is an area of 1,970,077 square miles, and 966,089 south of it. The New-England States have about one-fortieth of our territory, the middle States one-twenty-fifth, the southern States one-eleventh, the north-western one-seventh, and the south-western one-sixth. Only about one-thirteenth of the whole area of the country is improved. In the New England States about twenty-six acres in every hundred are improved; in the south, sixteen acres; in the north-west, twelve; in the south-west five. There are about a million and a half of farms in the country.

Such is Uncle Sam's domain. Surely, a goodly heritage is his, and he has room enough to expand for a century, without casting a covetous look upon the lands of his neighbors. Mexico, Central America, Cuba and the British North American provinces, with their 1,750,000 square miles, may look inviting, but Uncle Sam does not need them. Let him but improve the domain that already belongs to him, minding his own business, keeping to his own side of the fence, and fifty years of steady, persevering labor and prudent management, with the blessing of Heaven, will make this land the wonder and admiration of the world—the "prize farm" of the nations.—N. E. Farmer.

---

*This is 1,885,546,240 acres, or about 75 acres for every man woman, and child in the country.—Ed. Am. Ag.

Happiness can be made quite as well of cheap materials as of dear ones.

LITTLE THINGS:

OR, A WALK IN MY GARDEN.

I do not write about my garden because it is so large, so expensive, or so much better than those of my neighbors, but because every garden possesses its individual interest. Every garden is full of instruction, even that of the sluggard. While taking my walk this morning, I was struck with the

POWER OF LEAVES TO ABSORB HEAT.

I transplanted some cabbages, gave them a single watering, and covered them with leaves of rhubarb, or burdock, which I find much better than repeated watering. The thermometer had been up to 95°, yet the plants did not wilt. What oceans of heat are swallowed up by vegetation in summer! The leaves do not merely evaporate the water by the aid of heat, but they have an apparatus by which water is emitted from their surfaces, which, when disengaged, absorbs a large quantity of sensible heat. A single large maple in open ground will almost always induce a current of air beneath its shade.

Somebody has said, and it has gone the rounds of the papers, that nitrogenous manures are not good for cabbages or ruta bagas. Now I do not believe it. They love such manures, but the trouble is, such manures should be thoroughly incorporated with the soil, and if possible, prepared early in the season. I have for many years preferred this kind of manure to all others, and have almost always beat my neighbor, the doctor, who is a good gardener.

I have a spot sown with seeds from the Patent Office called the

CHAMPION PEA OF ENGLAND.

They look finely, are ready for picking after the Prince Albert, and before the Marrowfat. They have been cultivated for several years by some English families in this vicinity, by whom they are highly prized. I think they are not generally known in this State, but will prove a valuable addition to our culinary articles. *Item.*—Sow the Prince Albert, Champion and Marrowfat, for a succession of productive crops.

Some very silly things have been written respecting the use of

SALT AS A MANURE.

The chief use of salt is alleged to be its power of destroying grubs and worms. Now I would like to know how many bushels, evenly spread over an acre, would be necessary, so as to destroy a single worm? Then, again, it destroys weeds. But so will sulphuric acid, potash, or any other salt, or acid, when used in large quantities, and in a concentrated form. How many bushels of salt to the acre would it take so as to kill any weed whatever? I will answer. It will take just as much as will kill everything you plant or sow, except such plants as are of marine origin. There is, however, one little experiment which I once made with complete success. I had a spot thickly set with Canada thistles where I wished to make a garden. I manured the ground heavily, sowed with oats, and let thistles and oats grow together. When they were in full bloom, I mowed them pretty high, and with a tin coffee-pot of beef brine I filled up the hollow stocks of the thistles with the same. To some this might seem small business, but I passed over the ground faster than I could hoe it when under cultivation. The result was, that I never saw any thistles grow there afterwards. I close this article by declaring that I design to make my garden supply my table with something fresh the year round.—N. T. T., in New-England Farmer.

THE SUNFLOWER, OR HELIANTHUS.

This is a highly ornamental and extensive genus of plants, and from their tall growth they are particularly well adapted for the back of flower gardens, or the front of shrubberies, in which situation they make a splendid appearance in autumn. They grow well in any common garden soil; the tender kinds being protected in winter. It appears to possess far more profitable qualities than were hitherto supposed, and besides forming a beautiful object in a bed of flowers, it may be cultivated with advantage, and applied to many useful purposes. An acre of land will contain 25,000 sunflower plants at 12 inches distant from each other. The produce will be according to the nature of the soil and mode of cultivating; but the average has been found to be 50 bushels per acre of the seed, which will yield 50 gallons of oil. The oil is excellent for table use, burning in lamps, and for the manufacture of soaps. The mash, or refuse of the seeds after the oil has been expressed, and made into cakes, will produce 1,500 lbs.; and the stalks, when burnt for alkali, will give out 10 per cent of potass. The green leaves of the sunflower, when dried and burnt to powder, make excellent fodder for milk cows, mixed with bran. From the ease with which sunflowers are produced in our gardens, for they flourish in any soil and require no particular care, we may safely say that an acre of land will yield a very considerable return. Poultry are very fond of the seeds.

A White Robin.—I have heard of white crows, white blackbirds, white blackberries, and quite lately of a white swallow, but never until this season did I ever see a snow white robin. This rare bird can be seen any day near the residence of Mr. Herbert, in the town of Le Roy, about five miles north of Watertown. It has been seen and examined by a large number of visitors, as well as nearly all the people in the neighborhood, and pronounced to be a bona fide robin. It has the form and voice of one, and mates with a red breast; is a female; has brought up a family of fine young robins, two of which were spotted; and this is the third season it has nested on Mr. Herbert's farm and picked its hasty meal from his door step—scattered there by his hand, for which she has doubly paid him by a sight of her rare plumage and by her sweet choral.—Watertown (N. Y.) Reformer.

A smile, an expression, will tell a history; there are years of association in it, long years of memory and their shadows.

BATHING AND SWIMMING.

Every one should learn to swim. That, says an exchange, is a truism. Dr. Franklin said it a long while ago. But how few there are, even in our seaport towns, who obey Poor Richard's injunction! There is no excuse for such negligence, when we remember that the acquirement of the art of swimming gives health and pleasure to the pupil. All that is required is a little faith, some acquaintance with the laws of specific gravity, and considerable practice. Faith, as in all important matters, is the chief requisite. We have seen an excellent method for learning youths to swim. We do not think it is patented, and give it for the benefit of parents and guardians. The teacher is supplied with a stout rod, somewhat shorter and stronger than a fishing-rod, a cord, a hook, and strap—the latter should be three or four inches in width. The strap is placed about the body of the pupil, half way between the arm-pits and the hips, the hook or ring affixed to the strap, and fastened to the cord. The latter being made fast to the end of the rope, the pupil is placed in the water like a fish. He will soon learn to strike out, and the rest will come of itself. This plan is better than that of supporting the body on corks or life-preservers, because by the latter method the pupil must eventually lose his support all at once, while with the hook and line it is taken away from him gradually. Swimming by this process may be taught in about six easy lessons.—*New Haven Palladium.*

MUSKETOES.

Musketoes are getting to be very plenty and troublesome again, the east winds driving them in swarms to the city from the meadows. Without leave or license, and unannounced, they present their bills, and take pay from your blood. All manner of ways have been tried to keep them away but none are effectual unless it be the following:

An old pilot on the Ohio river says: "Never kill or drive" off a 'skeeter; let him have his fill, expose your body so as to get bitten all over, after which no 'skeeter, will bite you; for a 'skeeter was never known to place his sucker in the place that one has been in before him, even if it were fifty years ago. Being bitten all over, you will therefore prove an effectual remedy.

The Richmond Dispatch says:

An ingenious German of this city has invented a bedstead, which, in view of the musketos that are to come, is one of the most useful inventions of the year. The frame of the beadstead contains machinery at once simple and effective, which being wound up, will put in operation a fan or fans suspended above the sleeper. When wound up the machinery will move the fans from seven to twelve hours with rapidity, regulated at pleasure by the occupant of the bed, creating a brisk and stirring breeze, or gentle, soothing zephyr. The steads are made at from $5 to $50.

He who is genteel, but not gentle, is no gentleman.

For the American Agriculturist.

A FARMER'S HINTS ON FENCING.

The subject of economically fencing our farms, has hitherto failed to awaken as lively an interest as the importance of the case demands. The practice in new countries has been, to saw just enough fencing timber to fence the lot to be cleared, be it large or small. The shape and size of the lot is determined by circumstances, which may vary annually, according to ability or fancy. The fences remain in their first location until they have been repaired and replenished several times from the woods, and until what has been cut for rails is very much needed for building purposes. Some farmers have adopted the practice of making their lots larger, being careful to place the fences where they should be; dividing the lots with a strict view to economy and convenience, avoiding unnecessary angles in the lines, and thus bringing the balks, where the old fences stood for years, into cultivation; removing the stones that had accumulated there, to some suitable place, for wall, by which more or less stone wall may be made to great advantage. I have made some annually for several years; and as I have no stone that are conveniently near, I draw them in the winter from a quarry. I make half wall, 2½ feet high, putting two rails upon it, one under and one above the stakes, which should be stuck so as to cross each other below the top rail. After it is finished it should be banked on both sides, by plowing two furrows. The first furrow should be turned so as to nearly reach the wall, and the other taken with a shovel and laid upon the first, hard against the wall. This will greatly secure the wall from danger of falling by the ground heaving with frost. If the third furrow is plowed so as to deepen the ditch, it will pay well. Oxen are a better team to do this work than horses, as whiffletrees are apt to hitch to the stakes.

On almost all farms such fence may be advantageously made. Stone may be drawn by sledding from some miles distant, if not more convenient. I have found it profitable to make several hundred rods where but few stones were near.

Board fence may be made with far less expense and more durability, than in the ordinary manner. My practice is, to set cedar posts two feet in the ground, with a 2-inch oak pin 18 inches long through the lower end, and crosswise the line of the fence, which will guard it against the effects of wind and frost. I mortice the posts through, boring with a 2-inch augur. The bottom board—one foot wide and 1¼ inches thick—should be put 18 inches from the ground. Next, a space of six inches, and a board six inches wide; then a space of eight inches, and another board narrower still. The boards are 12 feet long, and cut so as to lap in the posts. A piece of the narrow board should be nailed to the middle of each length, reaching to the ground and above the top board. When the fence is set up, plow upon each side and raise a bank nearly up to the bottom board. The bank should be immediately seeded with June or some other grass that will make a firm sod. The ditches formed by banking in this manner are useful in keeping the ground dry where the posts stand, and frequently may be used to drain the land; and, as cattle approach the fence, it appears more formidable to them than when at a distance.

I build a wire fence in some locations; such as for lanes, and near the house, where snow is likely to accumulate in large quantities and be troublesome. I set posts in the ground 10 feet apart, and frame in rails 2½ feet apart—the lower one 1½ feet from the ground. I then put rods of $\frac{3}{16}$th-inch wire perpendicularly through those rails 6 inches apart, and fill the space below the lower rail with a board, 1½ inches thick and one foot wide, fastened at the ends by small cleats to the posts. There should be a small stone put under the end of the board to keep it from the ground. The posts should be capped, and, when finished, may be painted very cheaply with coal tar, or any other paint that best suits the fancy of the owner.

Ditching may be profitably done on low lands, like those bordering rivers, or any wet lands, where the ditches can empty themselves of the water that may settle in them. They answer the double purpose of drain and fence. There are some being made in my neighborhood this summer, 3 feet deep, 3½ feet wide at the top and one foot at the bottom, at a cost of three shillings per rod. In digging, the dirt should all be thrown on one side, into which may be driven stakes, projecting two feet above the ground, and narrow boards nailed to them, which makes an effective fence. A hedge may be planted upon the ridge so thrown up, with very little expense, which, in a few years, will prove the advantages of a *live* fence over a dead one.

Stone Mills, N. Y. **Wm. Rouse.**

Watering Cattle.—Among the many causes of stock not thriving as much as might be desirable during the winter, is their too scanty supply of water. A few have running water in their cattle yards, and their stock drink as nature requires it; but most farmers water their stock either by the pump, or by driving them to a running brook twice, or often but once a day. Watering is done by rule from fall to spring, regardless of weather or food I have observed stock so dry as to refuse to eat dry food, but after being watered they eat it voraciously. Now it is a well settled fact that no animal will thrive well while suffering for want of food, water or shelter. Let those, therefore, who want to turn out their stock in the spring in good condition, attend to these things, and let them see that the poorer and weaker stock get as much as they want.—Farmer and Visitor.

Early Cabbage.—The best way to obtain early cabbage, is to set out the plants early in October. They will come forward with great rapidity in the spring. Let every lover of this excellent vegetable make the experiment with a few plants of the hardiest and earliest sorts.

Fro the American Agricultuirst.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.

A chamber may be very prettily and comfortably furnished with but little expense. A good bedstead should be procured, free from cracks and loose joints, that it may more easily be kept clean. A bureau is desirable, though not indispensable. The same may be said of a washstand. Substitutes for these pieces of furniture may be contrived which will answer the purpose. I have seen a triangular shelf put up in one corner of the room, supported by small brackets, which answered for the bowl; a second one beneath it furnished a place for the pitcher when not standing in the bowl. I have seen, too, home-made tables with legs crossing each other, like the letter x, which looked well, and would correspond with the above mentioned shelf.

Seats made of soap-boxes, with the covers hinged on, and neatly covered with chintz, make very convenient seats, and answer well for keeping clothes in. The top should be covered with a cushion of old cloth, cotton, or hay even, and the chintz nailed neatly on. Around the sides of the box, the valance should be nailed a little full, driving the nails on the top of the box. Barrel chairs can be made so as to be in good taste, but particular attention should be paid to securing an agreeable shape. Shoe boxes, covered in the same way as the soap-boxes, are still more convenient for use, and particularly in rooms where there are no closets. In the great chamber, one of these empty boxes will be found very desirable, providing a safe place for laying away dresses. Even when the room is furnished with a bureau and wardrobe, it will not prove amiss.

One of the prettiest toilet-tables I have ever seen was made of a shoe-box. It stood on one end; the top was a semi-circular board cut out by a common laborer; two shelves were put in it, so there was a place for shoes, for the bonnet, and the second shelf for any parcels which it was desirable to lay away. A thin layer of cotton batting was spread over the top, and above this, pink cambric was tacked on. Around the edge of the cover cambric was slightly gathered, reaching to the floor. Over all was white muslin. A board four inches wide extended from the floor to about four feet above the top of the table. A curtain pin was screwed into the top of it. This board was first covered with pink cambric; then with white muslin; over the pin was thrown a width of muslin reaching on either side to the floor; and a glass was suspended from the pin.

Book-shelves made of thin pine boards, and varnished, look very well, especially in rooms with maple furniture.

Lounges are convenient in chambers where there is room for them, affording a place for a nap, and they will often accommodate an extra lodger for the night. **Anna Hope.**

There is an oak tree near Raleigh, N. C., which, at the sun's meridian, covers with a shade a space of 9,000 feet. It would afford shelter to 4,500 men.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.

We had the pleasure last week of going over the farm belonging to J. W. Patterson, the present Mayor of our city, and noting the results of some experiments he has been trying during the past season. This farm is about a mile east of the bridge, and is principally a clayey loam. About 45 acres of it last year was covered more or less with bushes, being that part from which wood had been cut for market. Last summer during the hight of the drouth, he employed some persons to cut bushes, but soon after beginning the work, some boys thought that they would set fire to a hornet's nest which they met with among the bushes. The fire spread from the hornet's nest and soon burnt over the whole piece, and was with difficulty restrained from doing damage elsewhere.

It now became necessary to put the land into a condition to bear crops. Accordingly, late in the fall, just before the frost had shut the ground up, Mr. Patterson had a portion of the ground harrowed, and on it he sowed winter rye, together with herds grass, and clover, and red top. This was suffered to remain without being harrowed at all, and the winter soon setting in, none of the seed germinated until the spring. After spring opened a part of the rye came up, and to appearance all of the herds grass and red top, but not much of the clover. The rye that came up grew very well, but the herdsgrass and red top came on vigorously and produced a bountiful crop of grass which was cut and secured at the usual season.

Mr. P. estimates the amount of hay obtained from the grass seed thus sown in the fall. and which did not come up until spring, to be not less than twenty-five tuns. We did not note what probable number of acres of the 45 were thus laid down. The balance of the piece was laid down this last spring, and is covered with a heavy crop of grain, and the patch of grass is excellent.

The crop consists of four bushels sowing of spring wheat, and thirty-three bushels of oats. The wheat is the variety known by the name of Scotch Fyfe wheat—this is a variety not usually cultivated among us. It is a bald wheat, straw of medium hight and the berry is white and plump. It is now ready for the sickle, though not sowed until the 25th and 26th of May last. We saw no signs of weevil or rust among it, and we should judge that it would yield twenty-five bushels to the acre.

But what we wished more particularly to remark is this, viz: that the money invested in this enterprise is well invested. We find that our farmers may be divided into two classes in regard to the subject of expending money in agricultural improvements on their farms. Ist. Those who *would*, but can not. 2d. Those who *can*, but *will* not.

Mr. Patterson expended not less than $600 on this 45 acres. This is a great deal of money to be thus used in our latitude. Many of our farmers instead of putting $600 to such a use, would look at it a long time before doing any such thing, and most probably would have used it in skinning some poorer neighbor by shaving his note so closely that the discount would far outweigh the principal—and princi-*ple*, too.

But this investment has proved a very safe and profitable, and, what is better yet, a very honest one. Mr. Patterson will realize at least a return of $400 on the $600 invested and that too in one short year, and the land still be in a condition to return as much more another year. Can any of your note shavers and fancy stock jobbers show a better return for cash invested?—Maine Farmer.

SHOCKING CORN.

The benefits of cutting up corn at the bottom, and before it is fully ripe, are now so generally acknowledged that there is no necessity of arguing the matter. Its economy is seen and acted upon by all, here at the north, except, it may be, those non-progressives who so love the good old ways of their fathers and their grand-fathers, and who look with horror on all improvement as new fangled notions that should be discountenanced by all staid and sober men.

The method of shocking the corn in the field is perhaps the most economical—taking five rows of corn for one of shocks or stooks, setting the shocks on the middle row. The shocks can thus be made large or small to suit the fancy. Smaller ones cure quicker, and are for that reason preferable. If a good hill is taken to stand the stalks of corn about it will help much to support the shock. When it is desired to move the shock from the field, the standing hill is quickly cut by pushing the shock partly over with the left hand, while a long knife in the right hand is thrust under the bottom and the stalks severed.

This method saves laying the corn on the ground, binding it in bundles, and then lugging together to shock—consequently saves much lifting and hard labor. Sometimes, especially if it be windy weather, one may be bothered to make the stalks stand about the hill till there is enough for a shock. To obviate this difficulty, an apparatus, or horse for shocking corn, is used, in some parts of the eastern States. A simple one was originally described in the Boston Cultivator. It consists of a round stick, about two inches in diameter, and long enough to reach just above the ears of corn as they stand on the hill. In the lower end is inserted an iron point some eight inches in length, shaped somewhat like a large butcher knife, only much thicker. This is for the purpose of sticking it readily into the ground when in use. Close at the top end two one-inch holes are bored at right angles. Through these are thrust two rods about four feet in length. These rods must be so they will readily slip in and out. With this instrument and your corn knife, you are ready for the field. Select your row and stick your horse where you want a shock. Then cut your corn and set it in the angles of the cross sticks, which readily hold it till you have enough for your shock. Then with your wisp of straw or whatever you use for a band, bind the tops firmly together. Now to remove the horse, grasp the upper end of the standard with one hand, and with the other withdraw the rods, when the standard is taken out with no further trouble.

There is this advantage in using such an apparatus—one can place the stalks more readily and as firmly in their places, is not troubled with their falling down before securing them with a band, while, if one wishes, he can make the shock away from any hill, without any central support, and in so doing save all the trouble of binding into separate bundles. So there must be a saving of time and labor enough, even in one day's use of it to pay its cost. When it is desired to remove the corn from the field in a day or two, or a week, there must be a still greater saving—besides having the corn all up in fine condition to withstand, without injury, any storm, however sudden it may arise. At such a time the saving in the value of the fodder must be no insignificant item.—T. E. W., in Rural New-Yorker.

HOW TO PREVENT COWS KICKING.

In most cases the habit of kicking is contracted during the first month after the cow has had her first calf. If, as often is the case with well-fed heifers, the udder is a little feverish at the time, it often becomes so sore that it is impossible for the poor creature to stand still while the necessary milking is being done. Following the instinct of nature she kicks; and finding she is thus for the moment freed from pain, continues to do it till the anger of the milker is aroused, and then a bad matter is made much worse.

It is better in the first place to tie the heifer by the head, then set your left shoulder gently but firmly against her, just back of her right shoulder, grasp firmly her right fore leg below the knee, turning her foot up backward till it touches the leg, then slip on over the knee a strap, or hoop, or cord that will confine it fast in that position. While standing on three legs she will find it difficult to kick so as to hurt you. Now take a convenient sized cloth, and wet and wash the udder thoroughly with tepid or cold water, after which milk her as carefully and tenderly as possible, using at the same time such gentle and soothing language as is calculated to show her that you do not wish to hurt her, but let her struggles be ever so violent or provoking, mind you keep control of your own temper. An outbreak on your part will as certainly be productive of a bad effect upon the cow, as an echo will answer your own voice, or as your image will be reflected in a mirror. Kindness, combined with the perfect control you have over her in this situation, I consider much the best way of breaking them; and after a few times she will lift her foot to be tied as readily as a horse will to be shod. Continue to milk her in this way until the soreness is gone, and she will find it a gratification to be milked, will often meet you as she sees you coming with the pail, and you will ever after find it easier to get along with her should her teats by chance get sore afterward.

He is a happy man, who can suit his temper to any circumstances.

Horticultural Department.

HINTS FOR OCTOBER.

FLORICULTURE.

Chrysanthemums.—Those which require it should have a shift and be tied out in the most tasty manner, hiding the edges of the pots as much as possible. Liquid manure in a diluted state should be applied three times a week. If this can not be obtained, use soot-water, which will give the plants a dark green glossy appearance. Where dwarf blooming plants are wanted, they may be buried in three-inch pots, and watered morning and evening overhead to induce them to root freely.

Pansies.—Plant out all plants propagated, and divide the old plants if good varieties to take root before winter sets in, when they must be protected.

Calceolarias.—Pot all those requiring it, and apply liquid manure to those a little advanced in growth. Weak manure-water, and often applied, is best. The plants should be placed in a shady situation and kept growing. They may be sprinkled overhead in bright weather.

During the month repot those which require it into very rich mold; plenty of sharp, clean sand should be mixed with it. Seedlings should be put into a similar compost. Water with care, and dry the leaves quick.

Cinerarias.—These should occupy a damp, shady position, and be kept well watered. Nothing is so injurious to this plant as drouth. They require good drainage and weak manure-water frequently applied. Dust with dry sulphur if mildew appears.

Those for exhibition must be wintered in a frame near the glass, and frequently shifted, and watered with liquid manure twice a week. Those for early blooming should have their final shift, and be kept growing by watering and otherwise.

Dahlias.—Seed may now be secured and tied in bunches to dry. When it turns brown it may be picked to pieces and spread out. The roots may be left in the ground till frost.

Fuchsias.—These may now be put to rest in a dry place, taking care they do not perish; but do not give them sufficient water to start them into growth only as they are wanted.

Holyhocks.—Seed may yet be saved; which should be sown under name, as they generally come the same as the parent. Propagation may be continued if cuttings can be obtained. They root freely if each cutting is placed in a small pot and kept well drained.

Tulips.—Beds may now be made, frequently turning the soil. Be careful to leave it in a ridge after each turning.

Pelargoniums.—The plants intended to bloom in May should have their final shift started into growth by sprinkling from above morning and night, and shaded from the sun. Tie out the shoots to cover the edge of the pot. Apply weak liquid manure frequently, and fumigate on the appearance of green fly.

Propagation of Bedding out Plants.—Geraniums, Calceolarias, Argeratums, and Heliotropes, should be propagated in September, as they bloom better if struck then, than when left till spring. They grow too much when propagated in the spring to bloom well. The following plan I find to answer best: Take a three-light frame, as many as required; make a bed composed of half leaf mold and half sand; level; then place the cuttings in four inches apart; tilt the lights; shade them from the sun; sprinkle them every fine evening, and take the sashes off at night and put them on in the morning and shade them. I have grown thousands in this way with very little trouble. Verbenas and plants of that kind can be propagated in the spring, as it does not make any difference to them.

Greenhouse in Gereral.—Keep the inmates perfectly clean, and admit abundance of air on all favorable occasions. Examine carefully any plants which show indications of bad drainage; also loosen the surface soil, for very few plants are damaged by the operation, unless in full bloom. Careful watering is indispensable at this season of the year.

THE VINERY.

The vines intended to be forced, or rather, started into growth this month, should be treated as follows: Tie the vines straight half way up the rafters of the house, the upper portion being brought back to the front of the house, forming a half circle, in which position they are sure to break regular. They should enjoy a temperature of 55°, as near as possible, never allowing it to rise above 60°. To secure this shading must sometimes be resorted to. Syringe them morning and evening, when the sun is coming on and going off the house. Keep the house close and damp, except when the temperature runs up to 60°, in which case air must be admitted. In a month from the time of starting, they will break fully, and in six weeks will show the fruit, when the remaining portion of the vines may be tied up. The Black Hamburg and the Sweetwater are the best varieties, as they set their fruit better in the dull winter weather than any other. The border must be lightly forked over, and the refuse of the wood-pile strewn over it, and for the present covered lightly with straw.

Any one wishing to force grapes this month, may rely upon the foregoing directions, the writer having forced them four successive years in this month; but as a paying crop, even with the best heating apparatus, they need never be attempted.

W. Summersbey.

CULTIVATION OF CRANBERRIES.

In vol. 13 of the *Agriculturist*, our readers will find copious details for the cultivation, gathering, and preparing for market of this fruit so highly prized for sauce and preserves.

We are glad to see that the cultivation of the cranberry is on the increase, particularly on those marshes so well fitted for its production in New-England, and which would yield little else in their present state. One hundred to two hundred dollars an acre is realized from these fields; and much of the work is done by children and old people, who would otherwise find little employment at this particular season.

New-York Horticultural Society.—We go to press just before the Fall Exhibition of this Society opens, and must necessarily defer a notice of it.

BROOKLYN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Fall Exhibition of this Society, held on September 19 and 20, was a fine affair, and like the proceding exhibitions, was highly creditable to all concerned. There were many things worthy of note; we have space for only a few. L. Menand, of Albany, with his usual public spirit, sent down a large number of plants. Alex. Gorden, gardener to E. Hoyt, Esq., contributed some very choice specimens. D. W. Beadle, former Cor. Secretary of the Society, sent 76 varieties of apples all the way from St. Catharines, Canada West. D. F. Maniec, of Brushville, L. I., showed 120 named varieties of pears. M. & J. Parks exhibited a beautiful "Horn of Plenty," which attracted much attention. A young Miss, a daughter of the President of the Society, produced a beautiful floral design, which was also a center of observation. There were seven large plants of Cissus Discolor, a greater number than we have seen at a single exhibition in this country. H. A. Graef & Son's model landscape garden will not soon be forgotten. The tea, coffee and chicory plants in growth, were a rarity to most drinkers of the pure or adulterated narcotics. The premiums awarded—a portion only of which we have room for—must tell the rest of the story.

FRUITS.

Best collection Foreign Grapes, named varieties, $10; to R. Parnell, gardener to D. F. Manice, Oatlands, L. I.
Best two bunches Black Grapes, $3; to A. Gordon, gardener to E. Hoyt, Astoria, L. I.
Best 6 bunches Native Grapes, 1 variety, $4; to D. Murphy, gardener to J. S. T. Stranahan, Esq.
Second best do. do., $2; to D. Murphy.
Best collection Pears, named varieties, $12; to R. Parnell.
Best dish of Nectarines, $2; to Henry Hudson.
Best collection Plums, $5; to Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y.
Best dish Figs, $2; to M. Collopy, gard. to J. H. Prentice.
Best 2 Watermelons, $2; to E. Decker, gard. to J. Q. Jones.
Best 2 Muskmelons, $2; to J. Buchanan, Astoria.
Best Ornamental basket Fruit, $6, to G. Hamlyn, gard. to W. C. Langley. 2d best do., $4; to E. Decker.

PLANTS IN POTS.

Best miscellaneous display of Plants, $20; to Louis Menand, Albany. 2d best do, $10; to M. Collopy. 3d do. do. $5; to J. E. Rauch, Gowanus. Best 3 specimens in bloom, $4; to A. Gordon, gard. to E. Hoyt. 2d best do. $2; to same. Best and second best single specimens, $2 and $1; to same. Best display of Cut Roses, $6; to J. E. Rauch. 2d best do, $4; to W. A. Burgess, Glenwood, L. I. Best display of Dahlias, $5; to James Weir, Bay Ridge. Best collection of Verbenas, $3; to same. Best general display Cut Flowers, $4; to J. E. Rauch. Best pair Hand Bouquets, $5; to W. & J. Parks, Brooklyn. 2d best do, $3; to Jno. Cranstoun, Hoboken. Best Parlor Bouquet, $5; to James Weir. Best basket of Flowers, $6; to W. & J. Parks. Best Ornamental Design, $8; to Miss Jane E. Degrauw, Brooklyn. 2d best do. $5; to W. & J. Parks.

VEGETABLES.

Best 6 Blood Beets, $1; to P. Henderson, Jersey City. best 12 White Onions, $1; to Morris Quinlan. Best 12 Yellow Onions, $1; to E. Decker. Best 2 Egg Plants, $1 to M. Quinlan. Best ½ peck Tomatoes, $1; to James Weir. Best ½ peck of Lima Beans, $1; to Henry Foddy. Best 6 heads Celery, $2; to P. Henderson. Best display of Vegetables, $5; to E. Decker. Best and most correct labeling of Plants, $3; to L. Menand. 2d best and most correct labeling of Plants, $2; to J. E. Rauch.

SPECIAL PREMIUMS.

For a collcction of Peaches, $5; to D. Murphy. For a fine dish of Peaches, $3; M. Collopy. For a Collection of Apples, $6; to D. W. Beadle, St. Catharines, C. W. For Everbearing Raspberries, $2; to W. Grant, gardener to W. Vandeventer. For 6 bunches Foreign Grapes, $5; to G. Hamlyn. For a Collection Indigenous Plants and Ferns, $3; to L. Menand. For a Collection of Seedling Verbenas, $2; to James Weir. For a Collection of Seedling Verbenas, $1; to Daniel Boll. For a Collection of Gloxinias, $3; to Wm. Poynter. For a Collection of Variegated leaved Plants, $5; to J. E. Rauch. For a Collection of Seedling Dahlias, $2; to W. A. Burgess. For a Collection of Plants used in Commerce, $5; Goff & Day. For a model of a Landscape Garden, $3; to H. A. Graef & Son. For a Collection of Seedling Antirrhinum, $3; to D. Boll. For a Seedling Hollyhock, $1; to W. A. Burgess. For a Collection of Seedling Pinks, $1; to M. Donadi. For a Miscellaneous display of Plants, $3; to G. Hamlyn.

GRAFTING OLD TREES.

We wish we could have had some of the thriftless skeptics with us, whose farms teem with old crab-apple trees and pears, as we dropped into the fruit yard of Mr. Thompson Wells, of Stonington, Ct. He came into possession some years ago of an old orchard near his house. Some of the trees were fifty years old, and bore very unsatisfactory fruit for trees that had arrived at the age of discretion. Mr. Wells determined to teach these old dogs new tricks, in spite of the proverb, and the well meant advice of his neighbors. He began to supply the roots with new food, by digging up the turf and putting on compost manure liberally. As the land was sandy and gravelly he put on also some clay. When the trees were well started with new wood, they were grafted with choice varieties of apples and pears. Most of the grafts are now three and four years from the setting, and are loaded with fruit. There where a miserable scrub orchard set the visitor's teeth on edge, we saw ruddy June Eatings and Sampsons and tasted them. Rhode Island and summer Greenings and noble Russets loaded the branches. There were splendid Bartletts, just beginning to look tempting, and Sickles blushing for the dainty juices maturing under their skins. These hung upon limbs that once bore only poor seedling pears.

The only secret of this success is a little intelligent husbandry and patience. The trees are pruned, scraped, grafted, and fed, and though old they learn the new trick of yielding luscious fruits with great readiness. Many only expect fruit every other year, but these being well fed make no exceptions for the odd year, toe the mark with exemplary exactness, and hand over their golden harvests. As we have had occasion to know in years past, Mr. Wells has the very best of apples in his barrel, home grown, when his neighbors' barrels are empty of those grown abroad. They can not afford them, they cost so much.

Now, let the thriftless learn a lesson as they look with watering mouth at these loaded boughs. Put that everlasting *can not* out of your mouth, and with a little faith in the gratitude and faithfulness of the soil you cultivate, put a few loads of good compost, stable manure and muck, or ashes and muck, or lime and muck, around your stunted and worthless trees. When the young shoots start, as start they will, graft them or bud them, at a suitable age. Follow up your treatment with compost, lime, ashes, bones, scraping, washing, &c., and you will have fruit; good measue, pressed down, and running over will Nature give back into your basket.

AUTUMN WORK IN THE FRUIT YARD.

Insects still commit their depredations, and need a vigilant watch kept upon their movements. We noticed this morning (September 7) a whole limb of a young apple tree stripped of its foliage. Upon examination, we found a whole brood of worms about the size of a well grown caterpillar, posted upon an adjacent limb, and still devouring the leaves. We found several trees afflicted with similar visitors, in various stages of growth. The stove or fire place is a good lodging for them. Hasten them up to their quarters immediately. The pear slug also reappears this month, and needs a good dressing of ashes or some whale oil soap. Wash the trunks of all your young trees with strong soap suds. Examine the collar, carefully removing the earth, and cleaning out all borers and worms. Give all your young trees a barrowfull of compost. Keep them in vigorous health.

GRAPES NOT RIPENING WELL.

Formerly our Isabella and Catawba grapes, just as they began to color would shrivel and drop off before ripening. A good supply of proper fertilizers, such as potash, bone-dust, guano. muck, and rotted barnyard-manure, and what we call very close trimming in the spring, obviated this to a certain extent, and gave us much more and better ripened fruit. But latterly we have only let two or three branches fruit each season from stems two inches or more in diameter, and these branches not permitted to run over about seven feet in length, and more or less of the fruit is picked from them when about half formed. The result is well developed, luscious grapes, adhering to the bunches with sufficient tenacity till desirable to pick them.

Lime and Sulphur for the Curculio and Black Knot.—My remedy of lime and sulphur has not only proved entirely successful for the past five years, in preventing the attack and also destroying the egg of the curculio when it had been deposited in the fruit, and thus securing it from falling off, but has also proved a preventive for the "black knot." The compound is this:

Mix a barrel of whitewash of unslaked lime, such as is used for whitewashing walls, and add twelve pounds of flour of sulphur. Stir and mix well and let it stand two days; then apply with a spouted syringe without rose on nozzle, but a flat of tin so placed as to flatten the stream as it passes out; this prevents any stoppage, and the friction being much less than with a rose, a greater hight may be overcome.

The syringing is continued for four weeks, every other day, commencing when the blossom has fallen, and is facilitated by pumping and forcing directly out of a water barrel placed between two wheels. The sediment of the first barrel will answer for the second and third by filling with water, and adding the same quantity of sulphur, without any addition of lime.

The syringe used is a large upright one, with a pipe attached; this is set into a pail, and throws the water with much force on to the tree.—T. W. Ludlow, in Hovey's Mag.

GRAFTING BEETS.

At the beginning of September, 1853, Dr. Allan Maclean, of Colchester, an ingenious experimentalist and good physiologist, grafted a young plant of the white Silesian Beet upon a root of Red Beet, and *vice versa*. At the time of the experiment the plants were each about as thick as a straw. A complete junction was effected. There was a slight contraction at the line of junction, much like that formed by "chocking" a rocket case; above the line of contraction the plant was absolutely white; below it was absolutely red. Not a trace of blending the two colors could be discovered. By similar experiments on either vegetables and plants, Dr. Maclean had so far assured himself of the perfect independence of scion and stock as to acquire the belief that neither the coloring nor any specific characters of one or the other would or could be altered by their union. The result of the trial wholly confirmed that view, and demonstrated that the White Beet adhered to the Red Beet by mere junction of cellular matter; that of the scion and stock holding together in the first instance, and each afterwards produced its own coloring matter in its own new cells as they formed superficially, the red cells adhering to the white cells while in the nascent state, but retaining each the peculiarity belonging to it, without any interchange of contents through the sides of the cells in contact.

This is entirely consistent with all that has been discovered by the modern physiologists who have applied themselves to a study of the nature of the individual cells of which plants consist. They have clearly shown that each cell has its own special inherent of secretion; as indeed may be seen by any one who examines thin sections of variegated leaves or other parts. It will then be seen that some cells are filled with a red coloring matter, others with yellow, others with green. In other words, one cell has the power of secreting red matter, another yellow, and so on. The colors do not run together, but are contained each within the cell that produces it. Why this is so no one knows; all that we are acquainted with is the fact that in the cells of the Red Beet resides a power of forming red matter, and in those of the White Silesian Beet that of forming yellow; and this peculiarity is not effected by the one growing to the other. Red-forming cells produce their like and yellow-forming theirs. Thus the limit between the scion and its stock is unmistakably traceable, and notwithstanding the combination of the two sorts in one, each perseveringly retains that which is natural to it.

What is true of Beets is true of all other plants, and we shall endeavor on an early day to apply to the practice of grafting the unquestionable facts above explained.—Gardener's Chronicle.

THE PERPLEXED HOUSEKEEPER.

BY MRS. F. D. GAGE.

I wish I had a dozen pairs
  Of hands, this very minute;
I'd soon put all these things to rights—
  The very deuce is in it.

Here's a big washing to be done,
  One pair of hands to do it,
Sheets, shirts and stockings, coats and pants,
  How will I e'er get through it?

Dinner to get for six or more,
  No loaf left o'er from Sunday;
And baby cross as he can live—
  He's always so on Monday.

And there's the cream, 'tis getting sour,
  And must forthwith be churning,
And here's Bob, wants a button on—
  Which way shall I be turning?

'Tis time the meat was in the pot,
  The bread was worked for baking,
The clothes were taken from the boil—
  Oh dear! the baby's waking.

Hush, baby dear! there, hush-sh-sh!
  I wish he'd sleep a little,
'Till I could run and get some wood
  To hurry up that kettle.

Oh dear! oh dear! if P— comes home,
  And finds things in this pother,
He'll just begin and tell me all
  About his tidy mother!

How nice her kitchen used to be,
  Her dinner always ready
Exactly when the noon bell rang—
  Hush, hush, dear little Freddy.

And then will come some hasty word,
  Right out before I'm thinking—
They say that hasty words from wives
  Set sober men to drinking.

Now isn't that a great idea,
  That men should take to sinning,
Because a weary, half-sick wife,
  Can't always smile so WINNING?

When I was young I used to earn
  My living without trouble,
Had clothes and pocket money, too,
  And hours of leisure double.

I never dreamed of such a fate,
  When I, A-LASS! was courted—
Wife, mother, nurse, seamstress, cook, housekeeper, chambermaid, laundress, dairy woman, and scrub generally, doing the work of six,
  For the sake of being supported!

[Ohio Cultivator.

AN AGE.—We have sometimes wondered what compass of time that expression signified; though we have generally concluded it is a much shorter space of time than formerly. For instance, the crew of a fishing vessel recently arrived at San Francisco, from a seven year's voyage in the Arctic seas. They had visited that place on their outward voyage, and it was a miserable Mexican village. They put in there again on their homeward way, and lo, a large and thriving American city had started into existence, as if by magic. The seven years of their absence had witnessed the discovery of the gold regions, and the building up of a populous State on the Pacific. Are not seven years of the nineteenth century justly entitled to be called an "age?"

HOARDING AND ENJOYING.—An old man was toiling through the burden and heat of the day in cultivating his field with his own hand and depositing the promising seed into the fruitful lap of the yielding earth.

Suddenly there stood before him under the shade of a huge linden tree, a divine vision. The old man was struck with amazement.

"I am Solomon," spoke the phantom, in a friendly voice. "What are you doing here old man?"

"If you are Solomon," replied the venerable laborer, "how can you ask this? In my youth you sent me to the ant; I saw its occupation, and learned from that insect to be industrious and to gather. What I then learned, I have followed out to this hour."

"You have only learned half your lesson," resumed the spirit. "Go again to the ant, and learn from that insect to rest in the winter of your life, and to enjoy what you have gathered up."—German Allegory.

A SHEEP STORY—GOOD PPUCK.—One fine summer morning it was my province to aid in driving a flock of sheep to a brook to be washed, preparatory to shearing. The man who had charge of them led the procession with the salt dish in hand, in which he ostentatiously rattled some lumps of salt, and from time to time pretended to throw a handful on the ground, to draw the flock onward from place to place, while I followed to drive up the loiterers.

The old patriarch of the troop, a fine old buck, led the van of the quadrupeds, and carefully examined every spot where the false motion of throwing salt was made, till he was fully satisfied in his mind that no salt was deposited. He then paused, shook his head with his ample horns, and waiting till the shepherd was about a rod in advance, charged upon him from the rear with his whole momentum, fairly raising him off his feet.

THE IDLER.—The idle man is an annoyance—a nusiance. He is of no benefit to anybody. He is an intruder in the busy thoroughfare of every-day life. He stands in our path, and we push him contemptuously aside! He is of no advantage to anybody. He annoys busy men. He makes them unhappy. He is an unit in society. He may have an income to support him in idleness, or may "sponge" on his good-natured friends. But in either case he is despised. Young man, do something in this busy, bustling, wide-awake world! Move about for the benefit of mankind, if not for yourself. Do not be idle. God's law is, that by the sweat of our brow we shall earn our bread. That law is a good one, and the bread we earn is sweet. Do not be idle. Minutes are too precious to be squandered thoughtlessly. Every man and every woman, however exalted, or however humble, can do good in this short life if so inclined; therefore, do not be idle.

MAHOMMED'S DISLIKE TO ONIONS.—Mahommed never would eat these strong-smelling vegetables on account of his converse with the angels, even as modern "Spiritualists" refuse to smoke tobacco; at the same time he allowed his followers to do so, except when appearing is his presence, entering a mosque, or joining in public prayers. The pious Moslem still eats his onions with these limitations. Some sects, however, as the Wahhabis, considering them abominable, avoid them on all occasions.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

NEW-YORK, Tuesday, Sept. 25, 1855.

As most of our readers who are specially interested in market prices, obtain full reports through the Weekly Times, we do not think it necessary to give a "Price Current;" but as a matter of future reference, we will, at the time of closing up each number, give a brief review of some of the more important articles of produce. Our comparisons to-day refer to the prices quoted in our issue of the 7th inst.

The inferior to extra State brands of flour are $7 62½ to $8 25 per bbl., a rise of nearly $1 per bbl. Extra Genesee is now $9 to $10 50, against $9 to $11 75 three weeks ago. Canada flour to-day, is $8 to $9, then $8 to $9 50. It will thus be seen that the general average price for flour is somewhat higher than three weeks since—the lower price brands having considerably advanced, and the highest grades declined.

The chief causes of the continued high prices is, that farmers still hold back their grain, and the medium condition of the wheat crop in Europe has opened a livelier demand from abroad. There is not at present a prospect of any material decline in the price of flour before the close of navigation. The yield is doubtless as large as we have at any time estimated it, but the greater part of it will remain in the hands of producers until spring. The prices then may be imagined, but not predicted with certainty.

Corn is considerably lower. Yesterday 48,000 bushels of Western Mixed sold at 87c. to 88½c. per bushel. The reports from this crop are in favor of an immense yield—greater than ever before known, taking the country together, though in some few localities the crop will be poor.

Potatoes are held at a low price; the best sell in New-York at this date for 37½c. to 50c. per bu., wholesale. In some parts of the country they are selling for 12½c. to 25c.

Oats sell at about 35c. to 37c.—a large decline, amounting to fully 10c. per bushel. Rye, $1 18 to $1 20 per bu.—a rise of about 8c. Barley, $1 35a $1 36—a large rise amounting to over 30c. per bu. Hay, North River, in bales, 70c.a75c. per hundred—a fall of 25 to 30 cents.

Cotton is nearly 1 cent per lb. lower; Middling Upland sold yesterday at 10 to 10½c. per lb.; other qualities at proportional rates.

Rice, a little lower.

Sugars have considerably advanced during the month, but have been dull for a few days.

Pork has advanced greatly during a month past. Beef cattle have declined 1½ to 3 cents per lb., net weight. The abundance of crops generally has had a tendency to lower the prices of most kinds of produce.

THE WEATHER.—From the 15th to the 20th of the month considerable rain fell in this region. Prior to that it was dry, and the eastern portions of the country were quite parched. The last few days have been cool and generally dry, with an occasional shower. The evenings now are cool, sometimes calling for overcoats. Frosts have set in slightly in the most northern States, and recently quite severe in some localities. It is yet uncertain what amount of damage has been sustained by Corn, Buckwheat, &c.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

Advertisements will be displayed in CAPITALS and leaded over as many lines space as are paid for.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

Advertisements amounting to $5—five per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $10—ten per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $20—twenty per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $40—thirty per cent discount.

By the column or half column, without further discount, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

Advertisements with cuts occupying the width of two columns, will be charged double these rates.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

GREATLY ENLARGED STOCKS.

Prices Reduced for Autumn and Spring Sales.

Sold only in packages of four sizes, as follows:

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
Or at New-Rochelle,
Westchester County, N. Y.

105tfn1235

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York,

offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf, PEAR, CHERRIES PEACHES, PLUMS and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—6n1237

SHORT HORNS.—Short Horned Cows,

Heifers and Bulls for sale. Address

JAMES W. WILKIN,
Wilkin's Villa, (near Montgomery,)
Orange County, N. Y.

105-110n1233

ANDRE LEROY'S NURSERIES, AT ANGERS, FRANCE.

The undersigned begs leave to inform his numerous friends and customers that he is now ready to execute all orders for Fruit, Forest and Oreamental Trees, Evergreen Shrubs, Stocks, &c. His collection is particularly fine this year for all kinds of Trees, &c., except Quince Stocks, the crop of which has again failed.

The Catalogue for 1855 is ready for distribution, and all those who wish to get a copy can obtain one, free of charge, by addressing our agent in New-York, Mr. F. A. BRUGUIERE, 138 Pearl-st., successor to our former agent and friend, Mr. Ed. Bossange, who has retired from business. Orders should be sent at once to secure a complete assortment. All required information to import Trees, &c., will be found on the first page of our Catalogue.

ANDRE LEROY, Angers.
F. A. BRUGUIERE, Sole Agent,
138 Pearl-st., New-York.

105-107n1234

SHORT HORNS.—The subscribers offer

for sale a few Bull and Heifer Calves, the get of ASTORIA, LORD, VANE TEMPEST 2d, imported 3d DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, and imported EARL VANE. Catalogues may be had from J. C. Jackson, Esq., No. 111 Water-st., N. Y., or the subscribers, at Elizabethtown, New-Jersey.

B. & C. S. HAINES.

JAMES M. MILLER, AUCTIONEER.

AUCTION SALE OF THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE.

The subscriber proposes to sell at Auction, his entire herd of thoroughbred "Herd Book" Devonshire Cattle, on

WEDNESDAY, 17th OCTOBER next,

at his farm, 2½ miles from Troy, N. Y., comprising 11 head of breeding Cows, and about 9 head of Bulls, Heifer and Bull Calves.

The originals of this fine herd were selected with great care through importations from England, and purchases in this country, and they have been bred with equal care, and all will admit on examination, they are a splendid herd of this popular breed of cattle.

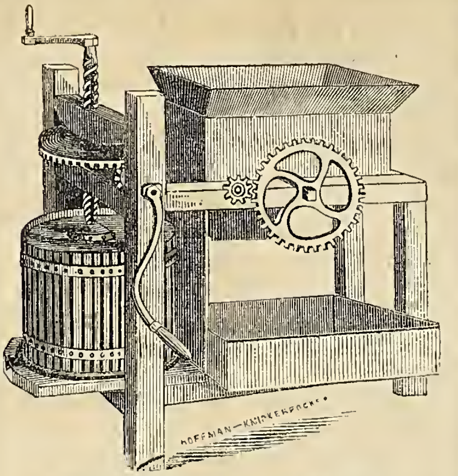
Among the herd is the beautiful, 3-year-old, imported bull MAY BOY, bred by John T. Davy, Esq., of South Moulton, Devonshire, England, Editor of the English Devon Herd Book. This bull, as will be seen by his pedigree, is descended from the highest strain of blood that England affords; and for perfection in symmetry, vigor and sprightly action, it will be difficult to find his superior. His get, as will be seen in the herd, will attest his superiority as a stock getter.

There is, also, among the herd, a beautiful 4-year-old Heifer and her Bull Calf. She was imported from the celebrated herd of Lord Leicester.

A credit of 12 months will be given for approved paper on interest. Catalogues of the animals will soon be issued, with pedigrees and further particulars, and may be procured at the offices which publish this advertisement, and of the subscriber.

GEO. VAIL,
Troy, N. Y.

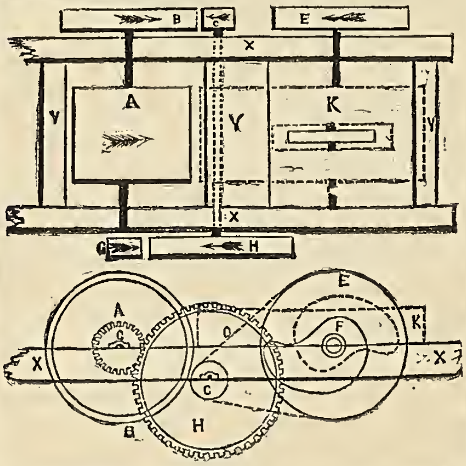
108—5n1225



EMERY'S CIDER MILL AND PRESS.

THE above cut represents the Mill and Press complete.

The diagrams annexed represent in outline, the several parts and their manner of operation. The same letters refer to the same parts in each diagram.



A—Grating cylinder, about 11 inches in diameter and 7 inches long.

B—Band pulley of iron used when driven by Power, answering also for fly-wheel on shaft of cylinder A.

G—Small speed gear on cylinder shaft, for driving it when worked by hand.

C—Small pulley on crank shaft which drives pulley and cam.

E—Large pulley driven by C, moving cam F.

F—Cam for driving feeding piston K, in bottom of hopper.

H—Large speed gear wheel on crank shaft, working into piston G, to drive cylinder when worked by hand.

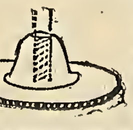
K—Piston shown by dotted lines operated by cam F, in its center, and serves to press forward the apples against the grating cylinder.

O—Band connecting feed-pulleys.

XX—Top girts or supporting plates of mill.

YYY—Cross girts between plates.

Among the advantages of this Mill are the following: This piston action in feeding apples or other substances, avoids all choking and clogging of cylinder or its teeth—the cam is so constructed as to make a uniform progression in its whole motion, and allowing the piston to recede by means of a spring action instantly—and the progressing motion of the piston occupying more than 9-10ths of its whole revolution and the backing of piston less than 1-10th. The feeding motion is obtained by means of a small band driven from a pulley C, on crank shaft, to large pulley E, on cam shaft. Thus, while it makes a sure and steady feeding, the band by an adjusting pulley is made sufficiently tight to do the work, and yet sufficiently loose to slip and stop feeding, if any foreign substance like stones or iron gets into the mill, and thereby avoids breakage and repairs—a desideratum never before obtained in a portable cider mill. It can be readily worked by hand by one or two men, as it is provided with two crank handles, one at each end of the crank shaft.



The Press is constructed with an iron stress beam, above and below—the upper beam formed into an inverted "step" in which the nut moves. The nut (as shown in the figure,) is formed by cutting a screw thread in the hub of a strong bevel wheel which is about 20 inches in diameter.—The pressure screw is 2 inches in diameter, and a slot cut its whole length, and a corresponding slot in the upper beam. Into this slot a loosely fitted steel key is placed, fitting both screw and beam: thus, while it does not prevent the screw moving endways, it prevents it from revolving with the nut. The nut is moved by means of the bevel gear on its outer under edge, and a bevel pinion working into it. This pinion is moved by a crank or a ratchet lever, similar to the action of the handle of an ordinary pump in raising water.

While this is of greater capacity than any other portable press, it is capable of withstanding three times the stress of any before offered the farmers of this country. Its weight is about three hundred pounds. Price $45, and Warranted.

Manufactured this season exclusively at the Albany Agricultural Works, by EMERY BROTHERS, Proprietors.

105—

BOOKS FOR THE FARMERS.

ALL SENT FREE OF POSTAGE, on receipt of the price annexed.

Furnished by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

I. The Cow, Dairy Husbandry, and Cattle Breeding. Price 25 cents.
II. Every Lady her own Flower Gardener. Price 25 cents.
III. The American Kitchen Gardener. Price 25 cents.
IV. The American Rose Culturer. Price 25 cents.
V. Prize Essay on Manures. By S. L. Dana. Price 25 cents.
VI. Skinner's Elements of Agriculture. Price 25 cents.
VII. The Pests of the Farm, with Directions for Extirpation. Price 25 cents.
VIII. Horses—their Varieties, Breeding, Management, &c. Price 25 cents.
IX. The Hive and Honey Bee—their Diseases and Remedies. Price 25 cents.
X. The Hog—its Diseases and Management. Price 25 cents.
XI. The American Bird Fancier—Breeding, Raising, &c., &c Price 25 cents.
XII. Domestic Fowl and Ornamental Poultry. Price 25 cents.
XIII. Chemistry made Easy for the Use of Farmers. Price 25 cents.
XIV. The American Poultry Yard. The cheapest and best book published. Price $1.
XV. The American Field Book of Manures. Embracing all the Fertilizers known, with directions for use. By Browne. Price $1 25.
XVI. Buist's Kitchen Gardener. Price 75 cents.
XVII. Stockhart's Chemical Field Lectures. Price $1.
XVIII. Wilson on the cultivation of Flax. Price 25 cents.
XIX. The Farmer's Cyclopedia. By Blake. Price $1 25.
XX. Allen's Rural Architecture. Price $1 25.
XXI. Phelps's Bee Keeper's Chart. Illustrated. Price 25 cents.
XXII. Johnston's Lectures on Practical Agriculture. Price, 75 cents.
XXIII. Johnson's Agricultural Chemistry. Price $1 25.
XXIV. Johnson's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology. Price $1.
XXV. Randall's sheep Husbandry. Price $1 25.
XXVI. Miner's American Bee-Keeper's Manual. Price $1.
XXVII. Dadd's American Cattle Doctor. Complete. Price $1.
XXVIII. Fessenden's Complete Farmer and Gardener. 1 vol Price $1 25.
XXIX. Allen's Treatise on the Culture of the Grape. Price $1.
XXX. Youatt on the Breeds and Management of Sheep. Price 75 cents.
XXXI. Youatt on the Hog. Complete. Price 60 cents.
XXXII. Youatt and Martin on Cattle. By Stevens. Price $1 25.
XXXIII. The Shepherd's own Book. Edited by Youatt, Skinner and Randall. Price $2.
XXXIV. Stephens's Book of the Farm; or Farmer's Guide. Edited by Skinner. Price $4.
XXXV. Allen's American Farm Book. Price $1.
XXXVI. The American Florists' Guide. Price 75 cents.
XXXVII. The Cottage and Farm Bee-Keeper. Price 50 cents.
XXXVIII. Hoare on the Culture of the Grape. Price 50 cents.
XXXIX. Country Dwellings; or the American Architect. Price $6.
XL. Lindley's Guide to the Orchard. Price $1 25.
XLI. Gunn's Domestic Medicine. A book for every married man and woman. Price $3.
XLII. Nash's Progressive Farmer. A book for every boy in the country. Price 50 cents.
XLIII. Allen's Diseases of Domestic Animals. Price 75 cents.
XLIV. Saxton's Rural Hand-books. 2 vols. Price $2 50.
XLV. Beattie's Southern Agriculture. Price $1.
XLVI. Smith's Landscape Gardening. Containing Hints on arranging Parks, Pleasure Grounds, &c. Edited by Lewis F. Allen. Price $1 25.
XLVII. The Farmer's Land Measurer; or Pocket Companion. Price 50 cents.
XLVIII. Buist's American Flower Garden Directory. Price $1 25.
XLIX. The American Fruit Grower's Guide in Orchard and Garden. Being the most complete book on the subject ever published, $1 25.
L. Quinby's Mysteries of Bee-Keeping Explained. Price 1.
LI. Elliott's Fruit Grower's Guide. Price $1 25.
LII. Thomas's Fruit Culturist. Price $1.
LIII. Chorlton's Cold Grapery. Price 50 cents.
LIV. Pardee on the Strawberry. Price 50 cents.
LVI. Norton's Scientific Agriculture—New Edition. Price 75 cents.
LVII. DADD'S MODERN HORSE DOCTOR. Price $1.
LIX. Guinon's Milk Cows. Price 38 cents.
LX. Longstroth on Bees. Price $1 25.
LXI. Book of Caged Birds. Price $1.
LXII. Gray's Text Book of Botany. Price $2.
LXIII. Directions for Use of Guano. Price 25 cents.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,

(QUEENS PATENT,)

THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.

85—136n1190eow

PEACH TREES.—The subscribers offer

for sale from their RUMSOM NURSERIES, Shrewsbury, New-Jersey, PEACH TREES of the choicest varieties. Also OSAGE PLANTS, for hedges.

Having had long experience in the culture of the Peach Tree and Fruit, they feel confident in giving entire satisfaction.

N. B.—Post-office address, Red Bank, Monmouth Co., N. J.

ASHER HANCE & SON.

103—n

NEW-BRUNSWICH NURSERY, N. J.—

EDWIN ALLEN begs leave to call the attention of those wishing to purchase, to his large assortment of Trees and Plants now for sale. His stock consists of nearly every desirable kind of Apple, Pear, Cherry, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine and Quince Trees, of large size and vigorous growth. Also Grape Vines, Gooseberry, Currant, Strawberry, Asparagus, Osage Orange, &c., all at low prices, and in quantities to suit purchasers. Price catalogues will be sent by mail upon application. Trees will be packed in the best manner and forwarded to any part of the country.

—105n1236

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
ALLEN'S do. do.
BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

THRESHERS—
ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
EMERY'S overshot.
EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, $40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, comhining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at $6 to $25, and Burr-Stone at $50 to $250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stnbble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil. Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes,
Spades,
Cultivators,
Picks,
Wheelbarrows,
Road-Scrapers,
Shovels,
Harrows,
Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills,
Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers,
Shingle Machines,
Apple Parers,
Saw Machines,
Scales,
Rakes,
Cotton Gins,
Gin Gear.
Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks,
Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

PEACH TREES FOR SALE.—10,000 first class Peach Trees, very thrifty and healthy, best market varieties, for sale low, in quantities to suit purchasers.

The superiority of northern New-Jersey Peaches is so well known as to need no other recommendation.

ALSO:

Mazzard Cherry pits, by the bushel or quart, preserved in the very best manner, and not allowed to become dry and worthless.

ALSO:

Orange Quince Seed.—A very fine lot of this seed will be ready for delivery in November, fresh and pure.

WM. DAY,
Morristown, N. J.

204—107n1231

JAMES M. MILLER, AUCTIONEER.

THOROUGHBRED NORTH DEVON and SHORT HORNED DURHAM CATTLE belonging to THOMAS GOULD, Esq., of Auburn, New-York.

JAMES M. MILLER & CO. will sell, on THURSDAY, October 5th, 1855, on the State Fair Grouud, at Elmira, Chemung Co., N. Y., the Herd of Thoroughbred North Devon and Short Horned Durham Cattle, belonging to THOMAS GOULD, Esq., Auburn, N. Y.

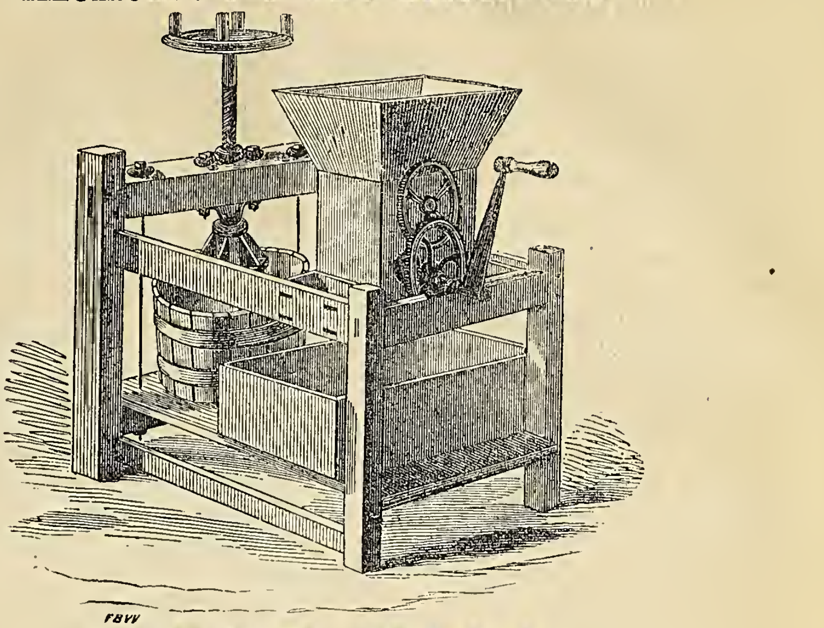
Catalogues of sale can be had by addressing the Auctioneer, 81 Maiden-lane, N. Y.

NOTE.—Mr. GOULD has kindly consented, should gentlemen having thoroughbred Cattle to dispose of wish to avail themselves of the sale, can do so by forwarding to the Auctioneer name and full list pedigree on or before Sept. 15th.

The Cattle must be on the ground the day before the sale.

CIDER MILLS—Of the best and latest improvements, occupying a space less than four feet square, and capable of grinding the apples and pressing several barrels of Cider per day with only two hands. For sale by
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

HICKOK'S PATENT IMPROVED



CIDER MILL,

AS ARRANGED FOR 1855.

MANUFACTURED SOLELY BY

THE EAGLE WORKS,
W. O. HICKOK, Agent, Harrisburg, Penn.

Warranted if Directions are followed, and not otherwise.

PRICE $40.

THIS IS THE FOURTH YEAR THAT THIS MILL HAS BEEN BEFORE THE public, and, as in all similar cases, improvements have been added, as it has been found necessary. Some of the following are the most important:

1.—The Mill has been increased in size, so that we can put under, a tub that holds nearly three bushels of apples after they are ground.

2.—Instead of a solid bottom board, or one covered with cloth, to go under the tub, I have a bottom board grooved in a peculiar manner, and both it and the tub, after repeated and severe trials, have been found the best for tho purpose—as they will always let the cider out clear and free from pomace.

3.—The bottom or floor is constructed entirely different from the former ones; and the pomace box has been much increased in size, by passing behind and below the floor.

4.—The castings have been made much heavier (about one-fifth;) and the shafts run in iron boxes bolted together.

5.—Heretofore great trouble has occurred in getting cylinders that would not swell and get out of place. That difficulty has now been overcome, by making them of IRON altogether.

On examination of the whole, I am satisfied that you will agree, that nothing is wanting or omitted, to make it a good, durable and perfect machine. All these improvements have, of course, cost much; and indeed they will stand me over 25 per cent. above the cost of them two years ago.

I am often asked how much cider can be made in them in a day? and I generally answer, from ten to twelve barrels. But we have made four barrels per hour on them. To do this, I should put about two hands on it, with enough attendants to bring the apples and carry away the cider and pomace; and should run it by steam power—with the understanding that I would not use over a ¾ inch belt, nor run it faster than a man could turn it, nor use more power than a good sized boy would exert on the crank. The pressing would be done by hand, and the pomace be shoveled into the tub. Sixty bushels an hour can well and easily be grouud on it, and of course, the Mill would stand idle one-third of the time.

The following are but a small portion of the premiums that have been granted to this Mill:

A MEDAL from the World's Fair, New-York.
SILVER MEDEL at the Fair of the American Institute, New-York. October 1852.
2 SILVER MEDALS from Baltimore. . . . . A DIPLOMA at the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia.
FIRST PREMIUM at the State Fair, at Utica.
FIRST PREMIUM at the Rensselaer County, N. Y., and also at the Columbia County, N. Y., Fairs.
A DIPLONA at the Westchester County Fair, 1852.
FIRST PREMIUM at the Pennsylvania State Fair, at Pittsburg, 1853.
FIRST PREMIUM at the Ohio State Fair, at Dayton; Michigan State Fair, at Detroit; Indiana State Fair, at La Fayette; and a large number of County Fairs, too numerous to mention.

Massachusetts Charitable Association, Boston; and wherever this mill has had an actual and fair trial at Fairs it has carried the first Preminm.

In one or two instances the committees have refused a trial, and given Premiums to other mills, they GRINDING TURNIPS ONLY, and not going into fair and honorable competition in making cider.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

JACKSTOWN, June 15, 1854.

W. O. HICKOK: Sir—I have one of your Improved Cider Mills; I used the Mill last October, and on trial I ground fifty bushels of apples per hour. I keep the ground apples twelve hours, and I can press out two barrels of cider per hour with two men. I can recommend your Improved Cider Mill to all fruit growers, for speed and a saving of labor. I can make thirty-five gallons of cider from nine and one-half bushels of common apples. The cider can be pressed from the pomace without using water now. Cider will keep one year when water is not used at the press.

JOHN M'COMBE.

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.— The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112.

He would also sell a few imported Ewes.

SAMUEL THORNE,
"Thornedale," Washington Hollow.
Dutchess Co., N. Y.

100tfn1219

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of
WM LAWTON.
No 54 Wall-st., New-York

83-108n1188

BAGS.—
NOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York,

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED. FLOUR, SALT GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.

Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city.

Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS.

☞ We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day, 97—109n1214

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS is requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the sinks and privies of New-York city, by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called

TAFEU,

from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal.

From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240lbs., or bags of 125 lbs. Price $35 per tun, or 1¾ cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York.

For further particulars address
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POUDRETTE, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price $1.50 per bbl. for any quantity over 7 bbls. 99—121n1152

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.— Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

95—120n1212

Special Notices.

☞ We forward a copy of this number to a few of our old subscribers who have neglected to renew. It is always understood that we consider every number sent as paid for, or free, so that none need take the trouble to return them.

◆

☞ Our thanks are due to our friends for their generous lists of new subscribers. We trust they will continue their favors, and that others will do likewise. We have printed extra copies of this number so as to be able, for a time, to supply new subscribers from the beginning of the volume.

◆

☞ The Agriculturist for each month will be mailed on the last Thursday of the preceding month—in the same wrapper with the Times, to those who receive that paper.

◆

☞ The present number has been got up in two weeks—half the time we shall hereafter have to devote to it—so that if possible we shall try to make future numbers still more valuable. We have, however, a satisfaction in thinking, that even twelve such numbers as this, filled with so great a variety of articles collected from a wide field, will form a volume worthy of a place in every farmer's library.

◆

☞ All letters relating to Editorial matters should be addressed to Mr. Orange Judd, (the Conducting Editor).

Letters inclosing subscriptions and on other business should be directed to Allen & Co., Publishers, and also those referring to both departments. Editorial and business matters, if in the same letter, should be on separate sheets.

Business Notices.

The Back Volumes of the American Agriculturist, neatly bound, can now be supplied from the commencement. These of themselves constitute a beautiful and valuable **Farmer's Library**, embracing a compendium of all the important agricultural articles that have appeared during the last *thirteen years*. First ten volumes, new edition, furnished bound for $10.

Bound volumes XI, XII and XIII (new series), $1 50 per volume; unbound, $1 per volume. The whole thirteen volumes furnished bound for $14 50.

Agents' Receipts, etc.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

Letters in regard to seeds, implements, books, &c., should not be mingled with matters relating to the *American Agriculturist*. In this office we have no connection with any business whatever which does not relate directly to the affairs of the paper. When practicable, we are glad to attend to any reasonable request made by subscribers.

Paper is cheap, so is postage, and we earnestly request correspondents to write on one side of the sheet only; and further, that they will place their lines as widely apart as may be, so that in preparing articles for the printer, we can always have room between them to insert additions or corrections.

Correspondents will please keep matters relating to subscriptions on a separate part of the letter from communications for the paper.

INDEX.

Acorns, oil from....15
Age, an....21
Agricultural College, Ohio....3
Agriculture, right views of....8
Althea—Illustrated....13
American Herd Book....8
Animal or plant....4
Animals, language of....14
Apple jelly....10
Apples and pears, ripening of....12
Autumn work in the fruit yard....20
Bargains and trade....11
Bathing and Swimming....16
Beets, grafting....20
Bloody murrain and scours....4
Book notices....8
Cabbage, early....17
Cattle, death among....13
" from Texas....3
" watering....17
Connecticut State Exhibition....3
Corn, broom....5
" feeding in the ear....13
" shocking....18
" the Wyandott....6
Cornstalks, stacking....10
Cotton crop in Mississippi....6
Cows, how to prevent kicking....18
Cranberries, cultivation of....19
Crow, our....3
Curculio, lime and sulphur for....20
Do something....15
Editorial notes....2
Eggs, testing....3
Endorsed, not....3
Exchanges, new....3
Fair, ladies at the....14
Farmer, the oldest in the world....6
Farmer's hints on fencing....17
" what Illinois clear....12
Farm, the great Statesman's....7
" Uncle Sam's....15
Fruit, one way to dry....6
Furniture—Peaches—Washing....10
Glass stoppers, to loosen....8
Goats, Maltese....10
Good investment....18
Grafting old trees....20
Grapes not ripening well....20
Grasshopper traps....10
Hassocks or bogs, removing....4
Hoarding and enjoying....21
Hog population of Cincinnati....11
Horses, protection from flies....5
Horticultural Society of New-York....19
" " Brooklyn....19
Housekeeper the perplexed—Poetry....21
Housekeepers, hints for....17
Ice house, a cheap....10
Idler, the....21
Lady's diary of the fourteenth century....15
Little things....16
Mahommed's dislike to onions....21
Meadows, old....5
Muck Manual....8
Mules vs. Horses....8
Musketoes....16
New route to the west, &c.....1
October, hints for....19
Queen's mews or stables....5
Peaches, dried....10
" pickled....10
Plums, to preserve....9
Potatoes, keeping sweet....9
Poultry, Brahma Pootras....12
Prairie investment....12
Preserving fruits....9
Rabbit Fancier....8
Review of prices, weather, &c.....21
Robin, a white....16
Seed, saving....7
Seeds, vitality of....12
Sheep, crossing....13
" story....21
Shirt, how to cut....10
Spade, song of the—Poetry....6
Spider, loves of the....14
Stable book, the....8
Sunflower or Helianthus....16
Thread, value of a pound of linen....7
Vinedresser's Manual....8
Watermelon butter....10
Washing preparation....9
Well curb and bucket—Illustrated....9
Wheat, sprouted....4

Publisher's Announcement
FOR THE
FIFTEENTH VOLUME
OF THE
American Agriculturist.
A Leading, Standard Agricultural Journal.
$1 Per Annum—Discount to Clubs.

The American Agriculturist will enter upon its Fifteenth Volume, October 1st, 1855, and be promptly issued thereafter on the first day of each month, making a large double quarto annual volume, printed with new and beautiful type, on heavy, extra white magazine paper of a superior fine quality

Its pages will be devoted exclusively to AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC ARTS, and those matters which relate directly to the cultivation of the soil.

It is designed to embrace such subjects as—Selection of seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various field and garden crops; fruit growing; care, treatment and improvement of all kinds of domestic animals; the construction and embellishment of farm buildings; housing, preserving, and marketing the products of the farm, orchard, garden and dairy; and to the domestic or household labors of the rural home.

It will be *progressive* in its character, having a constant watch for all improvements and new developments; and, at the same time, be sufficiently conservative to avoid and warn its readers against visionary theories, and the dangerous teachings of those who would create or distort scientific theories to subserve their private interests.

The *American Agriculturist* will be entirely independent of all collateral interests. The conducting and controling Editor, having no connection with any business whatever, will take good care that its pages shall be devoted only to such matters as relate directly to the interests of the reader.

It will continue under the CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of Mr. O. Judd, who will be assisted by the counsels and contributions of those gentlemen who first originated the *Agriculturist*, and have done much to maintain its uniform high character—including Messrs. A. B. Allen, Lewis F. Allen, Rev. Wm. Clift, together with several able contributors, whose united labors will serve to fill its pages with matter eminently serviceable to every owner or cultivator of even the smallest plot of ground.

TERMS:

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00
Twenty copies one year	15 00

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS.

Combination of Agricultural and News Journals.

In order to furnish all our subscribers who may desire with early agricultural intelligence, such as full, extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world, we have made arrangements with Messrs. Raymond, Harper & Co., to furnish us with an extra edition of the

NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES,

one of the largest and most comprehensive newspapers in the country. The Agricultural Department of the *Times*, together with its full reports of sales and price of live stock, farm and garden produce, &c., is prepared expressly for that paper by Mr. Judd, the Conducting Editor of this journal.

The two papers combined will embrace all that could be desired by the cultivator of the soil, wherever he may be located. The Monthly *American Agriculturist* will furnish standard articles of a high and practical character, adapted to the Month and Season in which they appear, and so valuable as to be worth preserving in a convenient form; while the Weekly will give the news of the day, not only agricultural but in every other departmsnt. The matter in the two papers will be different, and generally distinct from each other.

Hereafter we shall mail the *American Agriculturist* on the first of each month, and the *Times* on Thursday of each week, on the following liberal terms, which will include the cost of both papers:

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 00
Ten copies of both papers one year	16 00
Twenty copies of both papers one year	30 00

Back numbers of the Monthly *American Agriculturist*, when on hand, will be supplied at 10 cents per number. Back numbers of the *Times* can not be supplied.

Specimen copies always sent free.

All subscriptions or business communications to be addressed to
ALLEN & CO.,
Publishers of American Agriculturist,
No. 189 Water-st., New York.

N. B.—Editorial matters to be addressed,
Editor of American Agriculturist.

PRINTED BY H. C. REYNOLDS, No. 189 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

EDITED BY
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

PUBLISHED BY
ALLEN & Co., 189 Water-st.

VOL. XV.—No. 2.]

NEW-YORK, NOVEMBER, 1855.

[NEW SERIES—No. 106.

Special Notices.

A CHEAP AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY.

By reprinting some of the earlier volumes, and supplying deficient numbers of the later volumes, the publishers have succeeded in preparing a number of complete sets of the American Agriculturist, beginning with 1842 and ending with the volume just closed.

These constitute FOURTEEN LARGE VOLUMES, bound in uniform style, each volume being supplied with a full alphabetical index, by means of which immediate reference can be made to any topic or subject desired.

The whole set furnishes more than FIVE THOUSAND pages, in which is discussed almost every subject in the range of Agricultural Science and PRACTICE. There is scarcely a topic connected with farming, gardening, stock raising, fruit growing, &c., upon which valuable information may not be found, in one or more of these volumes. There have been few practical writers on agriculture, either in this or other countries, whose direct or indirect contributions have not assisted in filling and enriching these pages from time to time; and we think it no exaggeration to say that the 14 volumes of the Agriculturist constitute the most complete compendium or encyclopedia of Agriculture to be found in the country. We have much to regret that the entire work has not been stereotyped, so that an unlimited supply could be furnished, as it ought to form a part of every public and private agricultural library, and it would be especially desirable to have it in the archives of every agricultural society. This will not be possible, however, as there is but a limited number of complete sets, and no more of these can be obtained after the present supply is exhausted.

The fourteen volumes will be neatly packed and forwarded to any direction desired, on the receipt of $15 by the Publishers.

Any of the old Series—included in the first ten volumes—will be furnished at $1.25 per volume; and any of the new Series—included in volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV—at $1.50 per volume.

Orders for the above, or any further inquiries, may be addressed to ALLEN & CO.,
No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

AGENTS' RECEIPTS, ETC.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

Letters in regard to seeds, implements, books, &c., should not be mingled with matters relating to the *American Agriculturist*. In this office we have no connection with any business whatever which does not relate directly to the affairs of the paper. When practicable, we are glad to attend to any reasonable request made by subscribers.

Paper is cheap, so is postage, and we earnestly request correspondents to write on one side of the sheet only; and further, that they will place their lines as widely apart as may be, so that in preparing articles for the printer, we can always have room between them to insert additions or corrections.

Correspondents will please keep matters relating to subscriptions on a separate part of the letter from communications for the paper.

FARM AND GARDEN OF MR. AMOS BRIGGS, SCHAGHTICOKE, N. Y.

In a recent trip to Rensselaer County to deliver the address at their annual fair, it was our happiness to stop over night with the President of the County Society, and to examine his rural improvements. The village of Schaghticoke lies mainly upon the north bank of the Hoosick and not very far from its mouth. This stream, which is an insignificant brook among the mountains of Berkshire, here spreads out into an ample river, and pours a large body of water into the Hudson. Its waters are as clear as those of the sparkling springs that feed it, and are much less affected by drouth than many other streams. As the fall here is ninety feet within a short distance, it gives abundant water power and furnishes great facility for manufacturing. A large capital has been invested here, and Mr. Briggs and his brother have pursued their enterprises for many years, and reaped the accustomed rewards of skill and industry.

In the midst of his manufacturing enterprises, this gentleman has found leisure to surround his home with a garden, and as his means increased and the appetite grew by what it fed upon, he has shown his rural taste upon a large farm. The garden, though in the heart of the village, is not of the seven-by-nine order, but is generous in its proportions, though it hardly covers an acre. It has been under his charge some eighteen years, the trees are coming into full bearing, and he is beginning to gather the fruits of his past horticultural skill. It is particularly encouraging to beginners who are just setting their first dwarf pears, and preparing their first grape border, to be set down in a garden where the results they are contemplating are already reached. Their faith is very much strengthened in the capacity of dwarf pears to yield a remunerative harvest. They will venture to be more liberal in their expenditures when they see that similar labors have not been in vain.

The premises look inviting from the street' though you catch but glimpses of the golden fruit through the heavy foliage. The first thing that strikes you as you enter, is the flower garden, and the ample space that is alotted to it. This is, as it were, the casing of the gem inclosed within, the picture of silver for the apples of gold that hang, tempting as the Hesperian fruits, just beyond. This department is under the management of the lady of the house, and nothing grosser than what tempts the eye and olfactories is suffered to intrude upon these borders. They are now beautiful in the variegated array of autumn flowers, and do great credit to the skill of the cultivator. We have strong hopes of our American ladies yet, and do believe that they will be drawn into greater familiarity with air and sunshine, flower borders and health. The example of our amateur lady cultivators is contagious, and it is no uncommon thing to find an accomplished woman superintending her own flowers, or even transplanting and cultivating with her own hands.

By far the larger part of the garden is devoted to fruit, which is cultivated with remarkable success. The pear trees are now quite well grown, and many of the standards have been grafted with a great variety of fruit. The Bartletts make a splendid show, and have their full share of room. The Sickles are also conspicuous, and the limbs completely bronzed with this luscious fruit. One old Virgalieu does well here, and the newer varieties inserted upon well grown stocks, in two or three years give perfect samples of their fruit. Mr. Briggs has also given attention to grape culture, and has the most popular varieties, with some natives. The Catawba rarely gives perfect fruit, and the Isabella quite frequently fails. He has the first crop of Concord growing close by the Isabella, and though we examined closely and tasted samples from both vines, we could not discover much difference in the degree of ripeness. It is to be feared that all the promises of early maturity of the Concord will not be fulfilled. We shall wait another year before we order our first vine. He has the Northern Muscadine already fully ripe (Sept. 20), and it is the best native we have ever met with. It is decidedly foxy in its smell, has something of the flavor of the Catawba, and may prove worthy of cultivation where the Diana will not ripen. This last bears trial better than any of the new grapes, and gives general satisfaction.

But the penchant of Mr. Briggs is the plum, and in this his success is astonishing. He has some sixty varieties of this delicious fruit; though some of the early varieties had already gone, the show of the remaining trees was worth a long journey to see. The limbs were full, and the walks were strewn with the fruit—red, purple, green and yellow. Most of them were perfect and of large size for the varieties. The Washingtons and Jeffersons—the Ida Gages and the Golden Drops fully bear out their high reputation.

But there was one plum superior in flavor to any of these, known here as the Orange Gage. It is not known in the catalogues, and we think must be some seedling peculiar to this region. The nurseryman who looks it up and propagates it will be a public benefactor. The ravages of the curculio are not yet very seriously felt in this region, and the plum seems to be entirely at home. With all the fruit consumed in the household, and the still larger quantities given away to friends, bushels will waste for want of timely consumers. Some means must be devised by which this great waste in the gardens of our amateur cultivators can be saved. There are hundreds of them within a few hours of the city, and their number is every year increasing. New gardens are coming into bearing every year, and the work in them is very great. The owner is usually fully occupied with other matters, and has no time to make a market for his surplus fruit, and see to its daily gathering. If some enterprising market man would buy his surplus and see to its gathering he would willingly sell. It would bring much finer fruits to our market, and make them much cheaper. This kind of economy in small things is much more practiced by men of wealth in Europe than with us. As our population and wealth increase we should have a better system of gathering up the fragments of our abundance, that nothing be lost.

THE FARM

is about two miles from the village, and consists of about 250 acres of land. After you ascend the bluff, back of the village, the country is quite level, and admirably adapted to tillage. The soil is a mixture of clay and sand, and is free from stones and rocks. There is nothing to interrupt the plow or the mowing machine, and all the implements of improved husbandry can be used to the best advantage. We found the farm buildings all new, and very perfect and convenient in their arrangements. Time did not permit us to examine the stock or to visit all the fields.

We noticed, among other good things, a large field of corn grown for fodder. It was sown in drills about thirty inches apart, cultivated during the season, and about the first September cut up, cured in the field, bound in bundles and shocked. The burden of fodder secured in this way is enormous, and we are pretty sure that every farmer has in his own hands a complete remedy against a short crop of hay. A tun of well-cured corn fodder will make as much flesh, fat or milk, as the best hay, and six or eight tuns per acre can easily be grown on good land.

Adjacent to the corn field was a beautiful field of turnips, the bulbs large, and the leaves still luxuriant. They were much the best field we have examined this season. We were informed that over fifty acres of rye were grown this season, yielding some twelve hundred bushels. Besides the fertilizers made upon the premises, large quantities of guano, super-phosphate and plaster are used, and found to be profitable.

Near the farm house is a young pear orchard and garden, which we saw at once was a pet with the cultivator. Last winter was a sad visitation upon it, and many a thrifty stock of last summer now stood blackened and leafless. The living trees looked in excellent condition, and some of them had burst into fruit, and were yielding their first harvest. We heard great complaint of dwarf pear stocks all through this region, and learned that some were abandoning the cultivation. It is hardly wise, we think, after a winter of disaster, such as rarely visits us, to give up the quince stock, which has so many advantages, and so generally proves successful. The spaces between the rows of pears were kept in high cultivation, and were cropped with vegetables. We noticed splendid samples of Valparaiso squashes and Crook-necks, Black Spanish melons, and Nutmegs that would have done credit to the valley of the Connecticut about Hartford, or to Long Island, It was a beautiful sight to see these fruits of the tropics acclimated, and coming to maturity so far to the north. This farm is worked upon shares, and as the cultivator has an equal interest with the owner in furnishing good stock and fertilizers, and in thorough tillage, it yields very satisfactory returns to both parties. We were informed that it pays much better now than before the new buildings were put up, and other improvements were entered upon.

The potato rot has made its appearance in this region, and the Mercers are affected. But the yield is abundant, and good potatoes are selling at twenty-five cents a bushel. We here met with the Michigan White potato for the first time. It is a good deal cultivated, yields well, and is of excellent quality. It is thought that it will replace the White Mercer, a variety that has so long supplied the market, but which now rots worse than any other.

Mr. Briggs, as a cultivator and as the President of the Rensselaer County Agricultural Society, is giving a new impulse to husbandry in this region. It is very interesting to see the contagion of one such example spreading, to hear the discussion awakened, and to mark the slow but sure progress of new ideas in husbandry. We sow much seed by the way-side and among thorns, but much also falls into good ground and yields its harvest. "Corn for soiling" has been a theme for agricultural writers for some years. It is now a regular crop on many a farm, and will become a permanent improvement in our system of farming. It is encouraging for a thinker sometimes to come forth from his retreat and see what use the world makes of his thoughts. The speeding of the pen speeds the plow.

WASHING SILVER WARE.—It seems that housekeepers who wash their silver ware with soap and water, as the common practice is, do not know what they are about. The proprietor of one of the oldest silver establishments in Philadelphia, says that "housekeepers ruin their silver ware by washing it in soapsuds; it makes it look like pewter. Never put a particle of soap about your silver; then it will regain its original luster. When it wants polish, take a piece of soft leather and whiting, and rub it hard."

IMPROVING MEADOWS—MOWING MACHINES.

Many farmers have objected to using mowing machines the past season because their meadows were not prepared to work them successfully. Well, then, the sooner they pick up the stones, blast the rocks, burn the stumps, cut off the bogs, fill up deep holes, and drain them sufficiently dry for a team to walk over, the better it will be for their interests. Meadows thus prepared yield a large burden and a superior quality of grass. The gain from these improvements alone will usually more than defray the expense, often quadruple it, in a few years; and this gain is still further increased in the use of the mowing machine.

The grass on a smooth meadow can be cut by a properly-constructed machine at a cost not to exceed 40 cts. to 50 cts. per acre. At the average price of help the past two years, it can not be cut with the scyth at less than $1 to $1 50 per acre, and here is saving enough in two seasons to pay for a good machine, for any one who has a hundred acres to cut for himself and neighbors. But the great saving effected with one of these implements consists in *being able to do the work when it is wanted.* Thousands of tuns of hay are badly injured, and often almost wholly destroyed, owing to the inability to cut the grass in season, or take advantage of the weather.

The horse hay-rake and the horse pitchfork are also good labor-saving implements, and greatly facilitate the operations of haymaking, and unloading it in the barn.

Mowing machines, *properly constructed*, will operate in rougher ground than any one unacquainted with them would suppose possible. We say *properly constructed*, emphatically, for money invested in a poor machine is worse than thrown away, when we reckon the time spent in *trying* to operate such implements, and the waste of grass when poorly cut. We have had pretty good opportunities for observing mowing machines the past season, having seen more than a dozen different kinds in operation, yet out of them all, only two or three patents have proved entirely satisfactory. A machine properly constructed will work very well, and with little injury among stones. The large and fast ones it will slide over, while it will pick up the small ones on its strong fingers, and cast them over the board behind. Rocks, stumps and trees can be cut around if the team be properly driven; hassocks and bogs, if not too thick, the machine will jump over, and wet places it will cut any where a team can walk. We have seen many acres of salt meadow cut the past season, when the horses would frequently mire to their knees, and they had to be unharnessed and taken out, and the machine passed over the slough and then harnessed in again. On a side hill we have seen this machine worked admirably either up or down, or obliquely to the pitch of the ground.

The best mowing machines are compact, strong, simple in their construction, so as not to be liable to get out of order; and they should be made to keep their proper position on the roughest and most uneven ground—which is best done by means of a side wheel upon a spring axle.

Another important matter is, that they should do their work equally as well when driven at a slow rate of speed as when driven rapidly. This is a point in which a majority of machines have failed, even when good in other respects.

Several accidents have occurred during the past season, and, other things being equal, those implements are to be preferred which afford the most secure seat for the driver. The leisure season now approaching will give an opportunity to examine into the claims of the different implements before the public, and it will be well to take this time to provide for the wants of another summer, when the pressure of other duties will give less opportunity to make a careful selection.

CHEAT IN STOCK—WESTERN FARMERS BEWARE!

The interest awakened in regard to improved stock is being taken advantage of by several unprincipled speculators, who visit some of the localities most noted for full-blooded cattle, horses and sheep, and buy up animals that are, at most, only partial crosses of the better breeds. These they procure at a low price, and take them to the west, and by false representations palm them off for thorough-breds at exhorbitant prices. Farmers can not be too cautious in purchases. They should require full, certified pedigrees in every instance, and also know of whom they buy. The editors of newspapers are sometimes to blame for announcing the arrival of stock from the east, with the character of which they are entirely unacquainted. A friend no farther west than central New-York, was recently diddled out of several hundred dollars in purchasing at eight to twelve dollars each a flock of sheep represented as pure Merinoes, which were scarcely equal to several that he sold from his old flock at three dollars a head to make way for the new-comers.

Some valuable information in reference to the comparative value of thorough-bred cattle and crosses, is given in another article in this number. The same principles apply as well to all other animals as to cattle.

Pure Garden Seeds.—It is not always safe, says the Rural Intelligencer, for every man to raise his own garden seeds. If he saves seed from a squash of one kind that grew in the neighborhood of one of another kind, or pumpkin, the sorts will mix in the seed, and next year he will have another article, something perhaps half squash and half pumpkin. So if he raises the early Russian by the side of the Long Green Cucumber, he will find the seed next year, pruducing a mixture of the two. If cabbages and turnips are allowed to go to seed near each other he can not depend upon pure seed from either next year. In raising beet seeds, if the object is to perpetuate the pure bloods, such only should be set out for seed in spring, and as soon as the stalks are grown look out for pale or green ones, and cut them out, leaving none but those which are of the deepest red—almost black. The seeds from these alone will produce pure blood beets. Others will be deteriorated and run out. Corn will mix at great distances.

WEATHERSFIELD IN DANGER.

We suppose everybody knows the reputation of Wethersfield, Conn., for producing onions in immense quantities, to say nothing of their superior size and quality. In this respect the good people of that ancient borough have stood without a rival till recently A few days ago, a suspicious looking box, with all freight and express charges paid, came to hand, directed

"To the Select Men
of Wethersfield Conn,"

which was left unopened for a time, as fears were entertained that it might contain a torpedo, or some horrible contrivance of that sort—or perhaps a murdered body. After due deliberation, however, the mysterious box was cautiously opened, and the contents officially examined.

The "findings" were, a bushel of the largest onions ever seen, even in Wethersfield, which were carefully packed and forwarded by the "Select Men" of some thrifty agricultural town away out in Iowa. A little note inside contained the simple challenge, "Wethersfield might beat Iowa on onions *if she could.*"

Wethersfield, look to your laurels! or the tears of your children will be turned into weepings of real sorrow.

HUNT UP THE MUCK BEDS.

Before the ground becomes filled with water, and especially before it is closed by frost, a large amount of muck or earth which is mixed with decaying leaves or other vegetable matter, should be heaped up, ready to be drawn to the yard during winter, and mingled with the droppings of domestic animals. By this course the manure itself will be rendered doubly valuable, and the vegetable matter thus added will furnish a large amount of excellent food for future crops. Do not neglect this. It is the cheapest method of securing what most soils need, in order to yield large and profitable returns for the labor invested in their cultivation.

☞ We have no claim upon our readers for any exertions in behalf of the *Agriculturist;* still, as our sole reliance for any increase in our subscription list, or in the means of improving our present issues by new and expensive illustrations, &c., depend entirely upon the good will of those who can speak from personal knowledge of the merits of this journal, and upon their favorable mention of it to others, we hope to continue to receive the hearty coöperation of all who are disposed to favor and promote our enterprise.

DEATH OF PROF. JAS. W. F. JOHNSTON.

The steamer Atlantic brought the sad news of the death of this distinguished friend and promoter of agricultural improvement. No other man has labored more diligently or more successfully to disseminate correct information among the farmers of Great Britain; and his voluminous works, owing to a cheaper press—have been read quite as much in this country as there. His writings were chiefly devoted to collecting and arranging the developments of scientific agriculture, and no individual has done more to substitute a system of enlightened cultivation for one of mere routine farming. His "Notes on America," were valuable, though in some instances, too careless in the collection and comparisons of facts, and like most similar works, tinged too strongly with English prejudices.

He did not, however, confine himself wholly to agriculture proper. His last work, "Chemistry of Common Life," (recently republished here by the Appletons,) is a most valuable contribution to popular science. It shows that there is an interesting philosophy even in the plainest things, and that the humblest details of common life abound in marvels, where there is the "seeing eye" to observe, and the searching intellect to explore them. His success has been due more to resolute energy and to indefatigable industry than to comprehensiveness and depth of native intellect, and in this respect, the history of his life when published will be a fine example to others.

His loss to agricultural science is a very great one at the present era. After the completion of this last work in the spring, he visited the continent, hoping to recover his failing health, but without avail; and he returned home late in the summer with his lungs deeply and fatally effected. He resigned himself to his lot with christian submissiveness, and expired at Durham, England, September 18th, at the age of 59.

Guano Sprinkler.—A simple machine (unpatented) bearing this name has been constructed by Mr. Ira Dimock, a machinist and farmer, in Uncasville, Ct. The plan of the sprinkler is suggested in the common city watering cart. A cask having one head, and being the size of a common barrel, is fastened head downward upon a pair of wheels, which are united to an axle as long as the distance between two rows of corn. From the lower end of this cask projects a pipe made of tin outward and faced backwards, about four inches in diameter, and about twelve inches in length. Across the end of this tin pipe another is placed, about four feet long, also made of tin, having a line on its under surface thickly perforated with small holes. A gate is made to fit over that end of the shorter pipe which is inserted in the barrel, by which the contents of the barrel are shut out from the pipes, or by raising which the contents are admitted to the pipes, and thus sprinkled upon the garden. When using the sprinkler, Mr. Dimock mixes the guano in the water, with which the barrel is filled, in due proportion. Then he trundles the machine out into his field, and pushing it forward at a chosen speed, and opening the gate at the lower end of the barrel, the guano, in proper quantities and equally, is placed upon the ground and becomes mixed with the soil.

☞ A full supply of extra copies of the first and second numbers of this volume have been provided, so that we are able to furnish the volume complete to new subscribers coming in during this month.

Errata.—The Printer would apologise for the appearance of an "O" instead of a "G," in the name of Prince George of Cambridge, so beautifully illustrated on page 33.

The advertisement of Messrs. Parsons & Co., is worty of attention. Our residence near these nurseries gives us daily opportunity for observing the great care exercised in selecting, labeling, taking up and packing for shipment, trees, vines and other plants, all of which are matter of great importance to purchasers.

The office of the Agriculturist (on the second floor of 189 Water-street—entrance through No. 191) is open for the transaction of business from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M. Those wishing to see Mr. Judd especially, will do well to call between the hours of 10 A. M. and 3 P. M. *on Thursdays, and Saturdays*, as he generally spends Mondays and Fridays, at his residence in Flushing, or elsewhere in the country, and Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Times office, and at the various markets in the city.

Canada Thistles.—Few of our farmers are perhaps aware that there is a law standing on our statute books since 1844, imposing a penalty of $10 on any persons allowing this noxious weed to grow on their land or on any road adjoining the same. If the seed should mix with any other seed, and that seed is offered for sale, the penalty is $20.—So says the Ohio Capital Fact.

A Hint on Packing Pork.—One of our workmen says that his "boss," in Ireland, was noted for putting up excellent pork; and that he always cut every part of the hog into small pieces, of from one to four pounds. In this way the meat was cured through better with a weaker brine than is generally used, and it was more convenient for use afterwards, as a piece of any size required could be easily obtained.

Pickle for Hams.—Partaking of some excellent ham a few days since, which was put up last fall—eleven months previous—we inquired as to the kind of pickle used, and learned that they were put into a brine made by boiling together 18 lbs. of the best coarse salt, half a pound of saleratus, and nearly one-fourth pound of saltpetre, with water enough to fill up the barrel after packing in the hams. The boiling is continued but a short time, or till most of the scum has risen, which is skimmed off. The brine is allowed to become perfectly cold before using.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

We have received a large number of letters of invitation, complimentary tickets, &c., from the officers of State and County agricultural societies—enough to have occupied us for a year had we attended all seriatim. A number of societies have also honored us with a request to deliver their annual addresses. Where practicable we have replied to these letters and requests privately, but not having been able to do this promptly in all cases, we take this general methed of tendering our grateful acknowledgements for the kindness and consideration thus shown. We can but hope that another exhibition season will find us less confined by office and editorial duties, so that we may personally respond to a greater number of such calls, and greet our friends face to face at there interesting annual festivals.

As stated in our last issue, we do not deem it advisable to occupy much space in the monthly issne with reports of exhibitions, which necessarily possess in each case only a local interest. Some twenty or more correspondents will please accept this as an explanation for the non-appearance of their full reports so kindly forwarded. Those who have the Weekly Times, will there find extended accounts of some of the more important of these exhibitions.

For the American Agriculturist.

GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE.

I claim no right to dictate to you, but if all the agricultural journals of the country would demand of Congress the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, with an experimental farm in each State, and appeal to their subscribers to exact such a pledge from their members to Congress, might we not hope for something from that quarter at no distant day. More of the substantials and less of politics, or political maneuverings, would be better for the country. Farmers who plant nothing but flowers and thorns are apt to sleep hungry, and a government that talks and fights only must get bread from some other country. L. S. G.

Our correspondent is quite right in thinking that agriculture should claim that degree of attention from a government, which the magnitude of its interests as compared with those of any other occupation would imply, and we have not been backward in holding up this subject for many years past. But we are less hopeful of immediate results than formerly. The fault is with farmers themselves. They have the power in their own hands, but how few of them make any use of that power. When a candidate for their suffrages appears, how few will make the least inquiry as to his fitness and capability to represent the real interests of his constituents. It is deemed more important to know what party he claims to belong to.

In several European countries—in France especially—the Department of Agriculture is one of the most important branches of the government. Witness the action of the French government at the present season. No sooner is there found to be a deficiency in agricultural products than the whole government is alive to the subject, and notwithstanding the magnitude of the war now being carried on, the first attention is bestowed upon providing for the agricultural condition of the country. How great a surplus or deficiency of crops would be required to awaken the least at-tention on the part of the powers that be atWashington.

In the recent great trial of agricultural implements at Paris, the highest officers of state assisted in the preparations for the exhibition, and were present, taking the most active part in the proceedings of the occasion. What attention would such an exhibition in this country receive from our civil authorities? Let the political harangues at the State Agricultural Exhibitions the present season be the answer.

It is high time that a strong concerted movement be made by all the farmers in the country to demand an Agricultural Bureau—a board of *capable* officers, who should be especially devoted to developing the agricultural resources of our widely extended and varied soil and climate. We want men who shall be to agriculture what Lieut. Maury is to the navigation of the country. It is a deep shame, a disgrace to our government—to the farmers who choose the officers forming that government—that the whole subject of agriculture remains tacked upon the Patent Office, as an insignificant matter, to be disposed of in the easiest manner possible.

Our October Issue.—We were so occupied with other duties, and so hurried for time, in getting out the first number of this volume, that we were really afraid our future credit would be injured by what we considered its inferior character; but a very large number of our subscerbers in writing on other matters have been pleased to speak of it in very flattertng terms. Our Waterloo correspondent, upon whose opinion we always place a high value, says:

* * * "Your October number is one of the best of the series; 'Improving old Meadows' is to the life, as the Quakers say; 'Farming in Berkshire' shows that the farmers there, as in our poor pastural Otsego, are alive to the importance of a little patch of wheat for their own support. The 'Route through Canada to Lake Huron and Wisconsin' is truly interesting; methinks that the 'red cedar' noticed was only the sparsely distributed specimens along the cliffs by the lake; while the white cedar of the swamps (*Thuya occidentalis*) was very common." * *

A Curiosity.—The Homestead states that there is, on the farm of C. E. Alsop, in Middletown, Conn., a curious freak of nature in the shape of a tree. It stands among a number of sugar maples, has a trunk some three feet in diameter, and to a casual observer presents nothing worthy of special notice. But on closer inspection it is discovered that one side of the tree is sugar maple and the other white oak. The body of the tree is round and smooth, and the junction of the two varieties is marked by a slight ridge in the bark, which would hardly be noticed

Some twelve feet from the ground, the tree divides one side is maple, the other oak. The maple throws out a branch that has become entirely surrounded by the oak, and offers on that side the singular appearance of a white oak tree throwing out a maple limb.

For the American Agriculturist.

OUR WATERLOO CORRESPONDENCE.

Home-made Guano—Wyandott Corn—Drouths, &c.

We have here a farmer who has tried the experiment of making his own guano. He put one-half his stable-manure made in the winter and spring under a shed, and the other half into the farm yard. Last fall he gave his wheat fallow a dressing from both. That from the shed was reduced by slow fermentation to about half its original bulk; while that in the yard had increased to double its original weight from the addition of rain water alone; thus making it four times the labor to haul it to the field and spread it thereon. Both were distributed separately, and worked in at the last harrowing of the wheat field before seeding. Where the shed-manure was applied the wheat came up sooner, more even, and continued the next spring to keep ahead of the other; and not only was the straw larger, but the cereal yield was one-fifth more—in fact, the midge, which was not very destructive this season, did not touch this part of the field.

This experiment, I take it, gives the practical reason why guano from the rainless region of the Peru Islands is worth so much more than the rain-washed Mexican guano. It should also open the eyes of farmers to the importance of keeping all their animal manure under cover, in order to retain its most valuable but most volatile part—its ammonia salts. It is not only worth, by weight, four times as much as the washed dung of the yard, but it thus saves three-fourths the labor in distributing it to the field. True some attention must be paid to manure under cover, to prevent its too rapid fermentation, by which much ammonia would be lost.

Wyandott Corn.—I, too, have, this season, grown four stalks, twelve feet high, from a single kernel of Wyandott corn; but he who is not short of seed corn, had better plant of that variety which gives only one stalk to a kernel—at least, in this most genial section of western New-York. Although Jack Frost spares us those intrusions which he sometimes inflicts on Illinois, yet this corn will not ripen with us, should he even condescend to postpone his visits until November. Planted early in May, it did not begin to ear until the 10th of August; then three or four ears set on each stalk, two only of which have kernels formed on the cob, and those only at intervals. No frost to this time—first of October—has yet touched the leaves, but the silk has dried, and the cereal yield is naught; yet I have eight-rowed yellow, planted after peas were grown and the vines removed, which is now beginning to glaze. But this Wyandott corn would make an excellent manuring crop, to plow in after the cattle had stripped it of its leaves and incipient ears, leaving as a *quid pro quo* their droppings on the field. One stalk, ears and all, weighed eight pounds; after the cows had denuded the great inedible stalk, it weighed four pounds. Had it been a stalk of the coarsest variety of northern corn, in its green state, all would have been devoured.

No wonder that the Illinois farmer avers that corn grows best on worn land, when one half the vegetable product, with the droppings of the hogs and cattle, is left on the field. The Ohio Dent corn ripens and yields well in this region on drained land, under good culture; but as it has no suckers, the fodder is little, and our farmers do not appreciate the value of its large ligneous stalks as a manure. But methinks that which is foolishness to our farmers, is wisdom in the farmers of the western bottoms and prairies—under the circumstances both are right.

The Renovating Influence of Drouth.—There can be no doubt but that the great drouth of 1854 has largely contributed to the extra vegetable products of the present cool, wet season, particularly to the grasses, cabbage, &c.; while Lima beans, tomatoes, and even the wurzel beets, did better on a well manured soil the last unusually dry season, than they have done the present. Is it not a little singular that a beet, containing 85 per cent of water, will luxuriate in a drouth, side by side with cabbages that are naught. But this season, on the same spot, cabbages are abnormal monsters, while beets are only medium.

N'Importe.

For the American Agriculturist.

THE OREGON PEA.

The Oregon pea has been forwarded to this State (Virginia) for trial, and has realized all that we previously heard of it as regards growth—it having reached eleven feet in hight, and promising an abundance of seed. In bearing it resembles the famous black-eyed pea, and as an improver, I should suppose, owing to the rapid and luxuriant growth, it has few equals. The pea, in itself, is small, and gives no indication of producing such rank growth. It would, in my opinion take less peas in measure, or rather bulk, to sow an acre, than of any other kind, owing to its being so small. I have not been enabled to try it on a large scale, not having a sufficient quantity of seed, but so far it has proved quite satisfactory, and is considered by good judges to be an improver of the first class.

W. Summersbey.

September 26, 1855.

The Produce of a Single Pea.—Last spring, Mr. McIntyre of Northampton, Mass., planted a small pea which he took from a lot of Western corn. It produced five main stalks full six feet in hight. From these there were twenty-five other stalks averaging three in length, and from these there were other branches, so that the length of the whole was full 150 feet. The vines bore 212 pods, which produced 906 peas, averaging nearly 4½ to each pod.

The voilet was the national flower of Athens, which city, personified by sculptors and painters, was represented as a majestic female wearing a wreath of violets.

ILLINOIS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT — THE CENTRAL RAILROAD — STATE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

Our thanks are due to Col. R. B. Mason, Chief Engineer of the Illinois Central Railroad, for a polite note inviting us to make a trip over that road, for the purpose of examining the extensive agricultural regions through which it passes. We exceedingly regret that a pressure of other engagements has thus far prevented our embracing this opportunity of becoming better acquainted with central Illinois, as we hope to do at no very distant day. A continuous ride from the north-east to the south-west of the Prarie-State—from Chicago to Cairo—we fancy must be the next thing in grandeur to a trip across the Atlantic, with a sea unbroken by tide or storm waves.

A friend writing from Chicago, speaks in the highest terms of the excellent arrangements and the great success attending the State Agricultural Exhibition, which closed on the 12th of October. He alludes particularly to the collection of specimens secured by the officers and others employed on the Central Railroad. We also find some pleasant allusions to this matter in the Chicago Journal, of 12th ult., from which we make the following extracts, which are very readable:

That was indeed a beautiful idea of Col. Mason of the Illinois Central Railroad, to collect from field and forest and mine, specimens of the rich and varied materials where of this great State is made, and to strew them in such rich profusion "under canvas," on an occasion like this.

There is another lesson in this magnificent grouping of Nature's products, for it indicates in a sort of *bas relief*, one grand mission of a Railway—not merely to bring the world into a region, but to bring a region into the world; to bring out to the light its treasures—the gold of the harvest and the gold of the mine; to unlock the great store-house of fuel for a million of fires; in a word, to hasten on the future and the greatness of the State.

Indeed there is more upon the trains of a great railway, flung over such a country as ours, than conductors and freight agents ever dream of.

Among all the works of art and beauty that so embellish the Fair grounds to-day, there is nothing that so impresses us as embodying and appropriating an eloquent thought, as this tent wherein we are now standing, strewn with the fruits of the garden, the orchard, the field, the river, the valley and the mine. They are a picture to contemplate; representatives of the State; the State itself in epitome.

Here this iron ore, representing exhaustless mines in Union County—the material, black and rude as it is, of which this age of ours is made, this age we are so blest as to live in.

And here, the glow of a myriad hearths, packed away in Carbondale and Danville, in

La Salle and Jackson, and almost all over the State.

Now we come to a large number of specimens of prairie soil, that the chemist can touch with his wand, and the secret of their capacities will be disclosed. There, would spring in healthful luxuriance, the green spire, the early promise of the bearded grain; thence might come in strength the corn, whose waving blades should salute the summer mornings, from border to border; such corn as that just there, from Morgan and Union Counties, that aspired to be numbered among the trees, and proudly bore on almost every group of stalks, a score or more of ears.

Here are potatoes, smooth and fair as if they were natives of the sun-lit tree, and not of the dull, dark earth; pumpkins and squashes that one must walk around to comprehend. And then, those ninety varieties of apples, contributed by Messrs. William Stewart and Son, of Quincy—a score of styles wherein Nature fashions and flavors the pear, from Thomas H. Payne, of Lake County; and apples, forty descriptions more, flushed with every tint of summer and the sun; from Sterling, from Canton and Stevenson; from everywhere. There is a novelty in the shape of an Osage Orange; then a basket of quinces from Will County. What clusters of grapes, blushing from the vineyerds of Hennepin—Catawbas and Isabellas.

Verily, Nature in the west imposes no restraints upon the children she cherishes in her bosom. We think she must have somewhere repealed the law that limits the growth of fruit and shrub and tree.

Those onions, "round as my father's shield," and full as the moon in all her quarters—do you think weeping Wethersfield has anything to offer that can excel them? Some silly people suppose this earth of ours from small beginnings grew to its present magnitude, layer by layer, and that the onion is a sort of minature model of the process. If patient Winter would sometime defer her coming for a while, the growth of Illinois onions might demonstrate the correctness of the theory.

Surely Pomona and Ceres are the united divinities of this tent.

There, too, are specimens of the *woods* of Illinois—the material for sofa and plow, for mansion and coffin. And here are fossils, principally contributed by Dr. Condon, of Union County, and very curious things fossils are to be sure; a sort of legacy that some very old yesterday bequeathed unto to-day. There are lithographs of the old ferns, exquisitely done—the tracery as perfect as the original it delineates. There, a coil of a serpent, that perhaps when its great ancester was lurking in Eden, lay at length in a younger sun than shines upon us now.

To think that a tree once full of life and music and motion, wherein the birds in Time's early morning once sang; from whose foliage the sparkles of the dews of Creation were not yet brushed, to think of such a thing being exhumed to-day, indurated by ages, and in leaf and fiber, and massive trunk, made the peer of Time, and as if immortal in death.

There *are* fossils though, that have never yet been under ground; *human* fossils, long ago pulseless and cold; the way to the heart stoned up; the heart itself first cousin to Silex; but one finds very few in the west, and we saw none in the Exhibition.

Here, too, are shells in almost infinite variety; some tinted after the fashion of a sunset sky; some shaped like "the fearful hollow" of the human ear; some small models of the car of shell that he of the trident is said to ride forth in over his ocean kingdom; and all suggestive of the times that were, when over these prairies, perhaps, and along those valleys, rolled the waters of some great Mediterranean of the new world—a mighty mirror dashed into atoms by the Maker's hand, whereof these lakes of ours are only fragments.

Here, too, are little blocks of Illinois marbles, beautiful enough for a Powers to model for, that are of far more interest to us than those gorgeous specimens of Australian gold ripened by barbaric suns among the quartz.

And here we have the zoological collection of Mr. Robert Kennicott, representing the things that creep, and the things that fly, within the borders of the State. Mr. K. is a young man, though with a very old love for Nature, and may enjoy the consciousness, that in this labor of love he has "done the State some service."

But leaving a thousand things unnoted, we turn away from this tent, so rich in the truest wealth—the wealth produced by an intelligent *persuasion*, as it were, of a most bountiful Nature—produced and not found, as children look for treasures, and "children of a larger growth" grope in sands and mountain streams, for gold; and we leave, bearing away with us, a deeper impression than ever, of the exhaustlees resources of our adopted State, that only await for their development, the wonderful touch of mind-directed hand.

As we emerge again into the sun-bright air, a display of horses is being made in the circular arena, that the patriarch of Uz would have delighted to look upon, for Job, you remember, was a rare judge of the horse. Well, there were a few there, perhaps, of whom that great exemplar mortal patience might have said, "the glory of his nostrils is terrible; he paweth in the valley and rejoiceth in his strength; he saith among the trumpets, 'ha, ha!' and he smelleth the battle afar off—the thunder of the captains and the shouting." Talk of modern pedigrees! Here is one that is nobler than they all.

* * * And what a graceful thing that swan-like "cutter" is! We love the old-fashioned name, and so we use it. What visions does it conjure up, as it stands there of a keen, clear moonlight, a twinkling air, and earth dumb under its great white counter-pane. Then of a quilted hood, and a pair of bright eyes and a merry laugh and a musical voice in it, and of the sleigh-bells chime, ringing away over the hills and down the valley, and the moon climbing to night's high noon, and you two and no more. The snow crackles beneath the gliding steel, but you are not cold; the heart has too free a beat for frost. But snows have melted and moons have waned, and the old saying been made true again, "one shall be taken and the other left," and the wind has a sigh in it.

By the by, if you feel the leastwise Quixotic in the world, there's a chance for a tilt, down there in the hollow. Do you see that Windmill, from the Halliday Company's works? The wind *used* to go where it listed but such a device will keep the idle breezes busy that play about the old farm house in summer days, and the wild blasts of bugle-blowing March will have something to do now, besides swinging the vines beside the door, putting aside the curtains from the windows, rocking in the tree-tops, singing over the threshhold, and playing boatswain with the chimney.

By this device, the whole family of Æolus can be *domesticated.* This wind and that may churn, or spin, or rock the cradle, or saw the wood, or draw the water, and when the farmer looks out at his door, there they are, the busy winds at work. One, fresh and fragrant from a clover-field may be watering the cattle. Another that played in the garden among the roses, the night out, may be churning like a dairy-maid, and thus the farmer may have a new auxiliary, and free as air, to aid him every day. * * *

WHAT DRAINING DID.

A Short Chapter for Hired Men, and their Employers.

Some years ago the son of an English farmer came to the United States, and let himself as a farm laborer, in New-York State, on the following conditions; commencing work at the first of September, he was to work ten hours a day for three years, and to receive in payment a deed of a field containing twelve acres—securing himself by an agreement, by which his employer was put under bonds of $2,000 to fulfill his part of the contract; also, during these three years, he was to have the control of the field; to work it at his own expense, and to give his employer one-half the proceeds. The field lay under the south side of a hill, was of dark heavy clay resting on a bluish-colored solid clay subsoil, and for many years previous, had not been known to yield anything but a yellowish, hard, scrunted vegetation.

The farmer thought the young man was a simpleton, and that he, himself, was most wise and fortunate; but the former, nothing daunted by this opinion, which he was not unconscious that the latter entertained of him, immediately hired a set of laborers, and set them to work in the field trenching as earnestly as it was well possible for men to labor. In the morning and evening, before and after having worked his ten hours as per agreement, he worked with them, and continued to work in this way until, about the middle of the following November, he had finished the laying of nearly 5,000 yards of good tile underdrains. He then had the field plowed deep and thoroghly, and the earth thrown up as much as possible into ridges, and thus let it remain during the winter. Next spring he had the field again plowed as deep as before, then cross plowed and thoroughly pulverized with a heavy harrow, then sowed it with oats and clover. The yield was excellent—nothing to be compared to it had ever before been seen upon that field. Next year it gave two crops of clover, of a rich dark green, and enormously heavy and luxuriant; and the year following, after being manured at an expense of some $7 an acre, nine acres of the field yielded 936 bushels of corn, and 25 wagon loads of pumpkins; while from the remaining three acres were taken 100 bushels of potatoes—the return of this crop being upwards of $1,200. The time had now come for the field to fall into the young man's possession, and the farmer unhesitatingly offered him $1,500 to relinquish his title to it; and when this was as unhesitatingly refused, he offered $2,000, which was accepted.

The young man's account stood thus:

Half proceeds of oats and straw, first year		$165 00
Half value of sheep pasturage, first year		25 00
Half of first crops of clover, first year		112 50
Half of second crops of clover, including seed, second year		135 00
Half of sheep pasturage, second year		15 00
Half of crops of corn, pumpkins and potatoes, third year		600 00
Received from farmer for relinquishment of title		2,000 00
Account Dr.		$3,152 50
To underdraining, labor and tiles	$325 00	
To labor and manure, 3 seasons	475 00	
To labor given to farmer, $16 per month, 36 months	576 00	—1,377 00
Balance in his favor		$1,776 50

Our farmers must learn that knowledge and enterprise and perseverance exercised in their business, will not only add a hundred fold to their own income, but will also confer more permanent benefits upon our country than these qualities exercised in the same degree in any other business whatever.—W. D., in N. Y. Times.

BE SYSTEMATIC.

It will add more to your convenience and comfort through life than you can imagine. It saves time, saves temper, saves patience, and saves money. For a while it may be a little troublesome, but you will soon find that it is easier to do right than wrong; that it is easier to act by rule than without one.

Be systematic in everything; let it extend to the most minute trifles, it is not beneath you. Whitfield could not go to sleep at night, if, after retiring, he remembered that his gloves and riding whip were not in their usual place, where he could lay his hand on them in the dark, on any emergency; and such are the men who leave their mark for good on the world's history. It was by his systematic habits from youth to age that Noah Webster was enabled to leave to the world his great dictionary. "Method was the presiding principle of his life," writes his biographer.

Systematic men are the only reliable men; they are the men who comply with their engagements. They are minute men. The man who has nothing to do, is the man who does nothing. The man of system is soon known to do all that he engages to do; to do it well and do it at the time promised; consequently he has his hands full. When I want any mechanical job done, I go to the man whom I always find busy, and I do not fail to find him the man to do that job promptly, and to the hour.

And more, teach your children to be systematic. Begin with your daughters at five years of age; give them a drawer or two for their clothing; make it a point to go to that drawer any hour of the day and night; and if each article is not properly arranged, give quiet and rational admonition; if arranged well, give affectionate praise and encouragement. Remember that children, as well as grown people, will do more to retain a name, than to make one.

As soon as practicable, let your child have a room which shall be its own, and treat that room as you did the drawer; thus you will plant and cultivate a habit of systematic action, which will bless that child while young, increase the blessing when the child becomes a parent, and extend its pleasurable influences to the close of life. A single unsystematic person in a house, is a curse to any family. A wife who has her whole establishment so arranged, from cellar to attic, that she knows, on any emergency where to go for a required article, is a treasure to any man, (my experience, reader!) while one who never knows where anything is, and when it is by accident found, is almost sure to find it crumpled, soiled, out of order. Such a wife as this latter is unworthy of the name, and is a living reproach to the mother who bore her.—Journal of Health.

CHAPTER ON CURRANTS.

There is no class of fruits so much neglected as the currant, and none possessing so many good qualities and so susceptible of improvement, under good cultivation. Planted in some far off corner, where other fruits would starve and die, it is left to take care of itself, receiving no care in the way of manuring and pruning, or mulching.

In almost every garden where they are planted, we find them complete nuisances—hedge-rows of poor weak straggling branches, utterly incapable of producing good sized fair fruit.

In the production of new varieties, the currant has been sadly neglected, while every year adds to the too already extended lists of pear, apple, peach, &c., until within a very few years we have had nothing new added to this list. Lately, however, several new varieties have been sent out from England, some of which promise to become worthy of extended cultivation.

To cultivate the currant thoroughly, it should be pruned to one stock six or eight inches high, and planted against the south side of the garden fence for fruiting early in the season, and against the north side for fruiting later; in this way the fruiting season may be much lengthened. Suckers should by all means be removed as fast as they appear, and the head pruned annually, keeping a sufficient distance from each other to admit the sun and air—the young shoots should be shortened at least one-half of last season's growth, thus keeping up a good supply of lateral spurs for fruiting the succeeding season.

The ground around each bush must be kept well pulverzied, and have a top dressing every fall, with a covering of fine manure, or good compost. Fork this in in the spring, and apply immediately under the branches a mulching three or four inches thick of decayed leaves, grass, or fine straw. Repeat this every year, and very soon you will be surprised at the quality and quantity of your fruit. We gathered a few days ago fifteen varieties, nearly all of which were very fine. Among them were the following, with the description taken at the time:

"White Grape." The finest and largest of all white currants; the bunches large; berries very large and closely set, pale white but quite transparent; the bush rather a slow grower; wood short and stout; leaves dark green. The "White Dutch" has been to some extent confounded with this.

"Red Dutch." The bunches are short, compact; bush of fair size; the berries are large, high colored and rich, and for jams and jellies have no superior; free grower and abundant bearer; best of red currants.

"Red Grape." A fine grower and good bearer, with long bunches; large light red berries; quite acid.

"Champagne." A new variety, fruiting with us for the first time; evidently a cross between a white and red. The bunches are of fair size; leaves medium, color light delicate pink. I think when more extensively known will be much in demand for preserving.

"Cherry Currant." Berries very large, at least one-third larger than Red Grape, bunches short, very compact; a vigorous grower, and with close pruning an abundant bearer.

"Victoria." Bunches of enormous length; berries above medium size, pale red; abundant bearer, and trained against the north side of a tight fence may be kept till August.

"Morgan's White." Pale white, of good size; abundant bearer, but very acid.

"Rotterdam White." Similar to the above, but sweeter and richer.

"Black Naples." Best of the black currants; bunches of good size; berries above medium. These are much used in England for jams and jellies, but as yet are little cultivated in this country.

"Rotterdam Red," "Long Bunched Red," "Knight's Early Red," "Pitmaston Red," are all good red varieties; similar, except in length of bunches.

"Knight's Sweet Red." Bunches long; berries large; abundant bearer; one of the sweetest.

Any of the foregoing, with the treatment and pruning recommended, will produce well.—J. B. G., in Progressive Farmer.

The Hoosiers on the Wabash turn their "agy shakes" to some account. They climb into the top of a "shellbark" just as the chill comes on, and by the time the "personal earthquake" leaves them, there's not a hickory nut left on the tree.

Book Record.

All Books received—if not unworthy of notice—will be announced in this column by title, as soon as received. Further notices or reviews of Agricultural and Horticultural Books will be given—when their striking merits or demerits require it—after we have had time to thoroughly examine them.

The Principles of Practical Agriculture, embracing the theory of the soil; clearing of land; plowing; manuring; draining and irrigation; hedges and fences; management of meadow and pasture lands; cultivation of wheat, rye, corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, hops, tobacco, clover and all the varieties of grasses; the economy of live stock breeding and feeding; the management of the dairy; and the use of marl, peat, lime and gypsum, and the various systems of cultivation; keeping journals and farm records, &c. By Albert D. Thayer. Translated by Wm. Shaw, Esq., and Cuth. W. Johnson, Esq., F. R. S. 500 pages; price $2. New-York: C. M. Saxton & Co.

The Illustrated Annual Register of Rural Affairs and Cultivator Almanac for 1856. Edited by J. J. Thomas, of Macedon, N. Y., and published by Luther Tucker & Son. Albany, N. Y. Price 25 cents.

We have just received a copy of this highly valuable little work; it being the second year, or "Number Two," of its publication. It contains an Almanac for the year 1856, and upwards of 100 pages of excellent reading matter, on the subjects of country dwellings, barns, and other out-buildings; the best kinds of fruits and their cultivation; butter and cheese making; agricultural implements; improved animals, &c.; embellished with 150 handsome engravings. We assure our readers the Annual Register is well worth their perusal, as indeed everything else in this line from the experienced pen of Mr. Thomas; and we should like to see a copy of it in every farm-house of the Union.

Principles of Agricultural Chemistry, with special reference to the late researches made in England. By Justus Von Liebig.

We have before us two editions: one from the translation of Sam'l W. Johnson, made while he was in Germany in the Laboratory with Liebig himself. Published by Luther Tucker, Albany. Price, paper, 25 cents. The other, a reprint of an English edition, translated by Prof. Gregory, of Edinburg, and Published by John Wiley, New-York. Muslin, 50 cents.

Inside View of Slavery; or a tour among the planters. By C. G. Parsons, M. D., with an introductory note by Mrs. H. B. Stowe. Boston: John P. Jewett & Co. 318 pages.

The Planter's Victim, or Incidents of American Slavery, with illustrations. Wm. White Smith, Philadelphia, Publisher. 365 pages.

For the American Agriculturist.

HINTS ON PERSONAL HABITS.

It is of great importance that our personal habits should be correct, and agreeable to others. It is these habits which make the difference between a high-bred woman and one who is uncultivated. Attention to little things will add much to individual influence.

I am not unfrequently disgusted with the smell of hair that has been dressed with water till it has become offensively sour. There can be no smell more disagreeable, and young ladies should be particularly careful not to offend others in this way. In warm weather the hair should be frequently aired, and never twisted up wet. I have known a lady, for years, who is well educated, and fills an important position in society, but I never entered her room without being nauseated by the sour odor which pervaded it. Every remembrance of her is coupled with it, and every new interview revives and renews my consciousness that, excellent as she is, this one habit makes her personally disagreeable. This very week I took my seat in the cars behind a neat, well-dressed young lady, who, I will venture to say, has not aired her brown tresses this summer, and to those same brown tresses, I owe my resolution to offer a few hints on personal habits to the readers of the Agriculturist.

The hands should always be kept in as good order as possible. An old iron spoon, or a small piece of brick, will do better to scrape pots and kettles with, than the nails. A mop may be used for washing most dishes, which will render it unnecessary to scald the hands, as many people so carelessly do. Any child of ten years can make one of these mops. The stick may be about a foot long; a groove should be cut in it a little less than an inch from the end. Around this the wicking for the mop may be strongly tied, after the manner of making those found in the stores.

If the nails are not all scratched off, or bitten off—which we should expect no lady to do—they will require some attention. In wiping them they should be rubbed so as to prevent the skin adhering to them and forming hang-nails—as they are called. They should, of course, be always clean. A sharp knife should not be used, as it thickens the nails; neither should they be cleaned down too deep.

While I say the hands should be always kept in as good order as possible, I should be ashamed of myself if I could not use mine for any service required; and I am sure I do not wish to see young ladies afraid to work, because it will spoil their hands. I only wish them to preserve them from unnecessary injury, and to avoid making them as red as a beef-steak.

Every young woman should brush her teeth daily—and twice a day is none too often for cleanliness. What can be more disgusting than a foul mouth? Some people think brushing the teeth causes them to decay. Nothing can be further from the truth. No face can be wholly agreeable which reveals teeth that are not clean. A tooth-pick should not be used at the table, nor any where in the presence of others, if it can be avoided. When rendered necessary, by pain, a napkin or handkerchief should be held before the face. Sucking the teeth to clean them is unpardonable, as some would consider even the mention of the subject here.

Snuffing, too, is one of those habits which it would scarcely do to whisper in the hearing of ears polite, but which, nevertheless, is too common not to be guarded against.

People often unconsciously fall into habits which they themselves disapprove, and it is a kindness, for which they should be grateful, to remind them of it in a courteous manner.

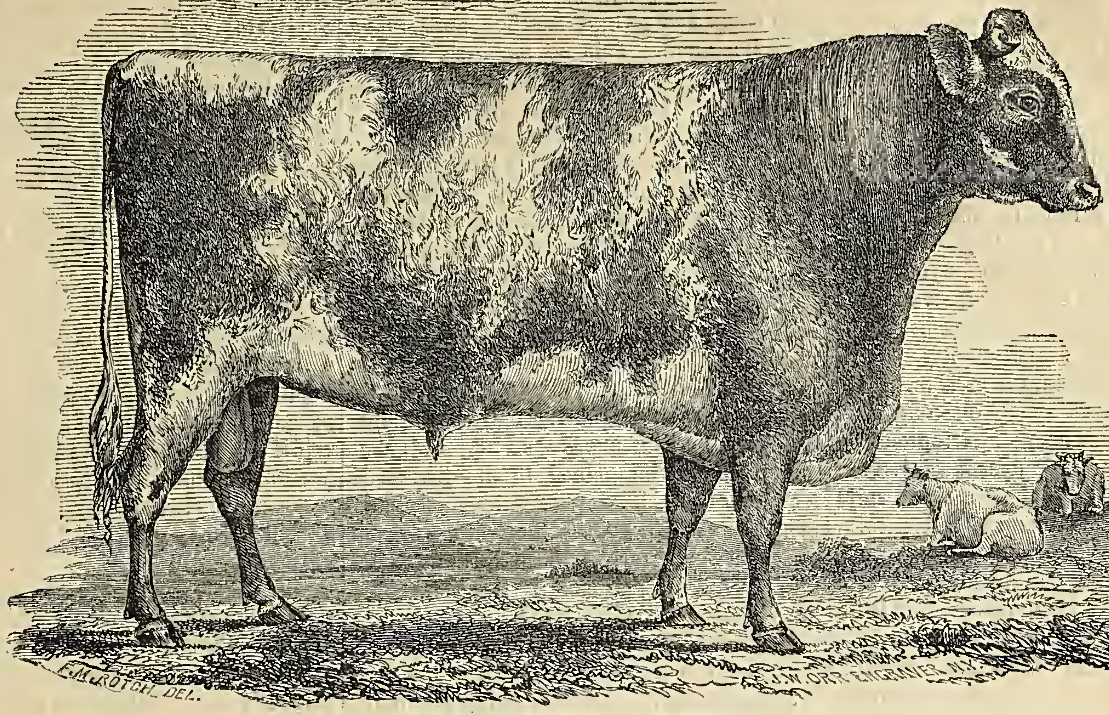
Table-manners are of much consequence. People should eat at home as they would wish to eat abroad. In these days, in good society, it is customary to put the food in the mouth with the fork, instead of the knife. To use the knife for this purpose seems scarcely less awkward than years ago it would have done to resort to the fingers. This, one may say, is a small matter; and so it is, but it is these small matters which distinguish one accustomed to society from one who is not, and they are worthy of attention. The arm should not be rested on the table, as if ready to grasp the plate and every thing within reach. It is a most awkward position. The food should be carried to the mouth, and not the mouth brought down to the food.

It is always pleasant to see the different members of a family bid each other "good morning," and "good night." Children should always yield their parents this mark of respect and affection.

As a nation, Americans are not noted for their politeness. This is somewhat singular considering the high estimation in which woman is every where held. It is owing probably to the individuality of our people. They respect no one quite as much as themselves, and even children are pretty apt to feel their own importance. When I was a child it was the custom for girls to curtsy, and for boys to take off the hat and bow, to passing carriages. In these times, a carriage can not always pass a group of boys without incivility from them. We do not so much need, in America, to cultivate a spirit of sturdy independence, as we do of civility and respect for others. "Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honor the face of the old man," is as important now as when it was given by God to Moses as a rule for his people. "Be courteous," is an apostolic injunction, which all young people should remember in their treatment of each other, as well as of their superiors.

Anna Hope.

An amateur gardener and joker sent to a seedsman in town the other day, for some seeds of the "pie-plant," which he had advertised—requesting precisely six parcels of custard pie-seeds and two of mince pie. The seedsman promptly sent him half a dozen goose eggs and two blind puppies. The humorous gentleman admitted that the joke was rather against him.


F.M. ROTCH. DEL.
J.W. ORR ENGRAVER N.Y.

PRINCE GEORGE OF CAMBRIDGE.
PROPERTY OF F. M. ROTCH.

CATTLE BREEDING.

AN INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE CHAPTER.

In the recent Herd Book (vol. ii), sublished by Lewis F. Allen, of Black Rock, N. Y., we find the following valuable hints, which will interest many of our readers, who are not professionally cattle breeders :

This question, in the full extent of its meaning, might lead into a labored essay on the various topics included in the science of breeding; but such is not the intention. The critical observer of American Short Horns will readily detect a decided difference and improvement of *style* in the *best* of the recently imported cattle, over those imported thirty, or even twenty years ago. He will see more *fineness*, a better *handling* quality, a straighter and more open shoulder, and more breadth below, developing a greater prominence and depth of the brisket, and a squarer form from the setting on of the neck, back to the rump. These improvements distinctly show the fact for which the English breeders have always contended, viz: that the Short Horns possess *within themselves* the elements of improvement to the highest degree of perfection.

The *improved* Short Horns, as they now exist, may be called a highly cultivated variety of cattle; not an *artificial* race or breed; for in the improvement which they have received, in the long course of past years, they are indebted to their original blood alone, and in this, coupled with good management, which has produced it, lies their crowning merit. Many American cattle-writers, who are either too stingy, or too narrow-spirited and prejudiced to concede greater intrinsic excellence in anything which comes further or costs more than the inferior things which they themselves possess, or have been, life long, familiar with, have poured out quires of twaddle upon the wisdom of improving the *breed* of common stock, with which our country is filled, by selections and careful breeding *among themselves*, in preference to going abroad after costly animals for that purpose. When the first stage of *permanent* improvement is attained, in any such enterprise, it is to be hoped the fortunate authors of such improvement will show it, as nothing of the kind has yet been discovered. But no more ink need be wasted on so barren a subject. Some *theorists*, in treating of the improvement which has been made in the different varieties of domestic animals, have contended, that it was by crossing distinct breeds, or varieties of them, together, and then breeding that produce together by themselves, which has developed the striking characteristics and excellencies now seen in certain favorite breeds, and that some sort of hidden charm, or skill, was exercised by their original breeders in such production, which they would never divulge! Such has been asserted of Bakewell, of the last century, the distinguished breeder of the English cart horse, the long-horned cattle, and the New Liecester sheep. Such necromantic power has been claimed, too, for Charles Colling, upon whose famous exploits with the bull "Hubback," and his subsequent cross of a Short Horn with a Galloway, a few interested or ignorant men have rung the changes, until half the world has believed them. It is not necessary in this discussion to again inquire into the origin of the present race of Short Horn cattle. The subject has already been examined.

The great skill displayed by the early breeders of England, in their best breeds of cattle, consisted in an intimate knowledge of the *capabilities of the breed* which they proposed to improve, and in the correct physiological application of those capabilities, aided by generous feed, and constant watchful care in breeding, to produce certain results. There was no *magic*, no *chance* about it. It has been done by other breeders since; by Bates, and some of his cotemporaries; it is now done in England; it may be done in America. There is no doubt a *genius* and a taste in cattle breeding, as there is genius and a taste in art of any kind, as in painting, sculpture, music. Every one is not possessed of this faculty, it is certain. But in England may be found men now distinguished as cattle-breeders, whose ancestors, in an unbroken line for centuries back, almost upon the same farm, and quite in the same neighborhood, have been so distinguished; men of no great acquirements either, in other things; but this skill has been literally bred into their very being, in regular descent from sire to son, until they seem to have an almost intuitive knowledge on the subject. No theory, as such, can perhaps be laid down, aside from the one that the breeder should have the animals actually before him to guide his action in the premises, and this action be dictated by a past course of close and accurate observation. Appropriate and sufficient food in regular quantities, and at proper times, a uniform condition of flesh, *perfect health*, good shelter, equable temperature, as the climate will admit, gentle treatment—all these have to do with correct breeding, and without such aids, no one need hope to succeed to a high degree of excellence in his stock. I have seen Short Horns, good in themselves, of unquestioned pedigree, so reduced in size and appearance by three or four generations of neglected breeding, imperfect shelter, and poor keep, that they scarce looked like Short Horns at all; yet their capabilities for improvement remained, and a removal of them into good grounds, with abundant food, warm shelter, and breeding them to better animals, brought their offspring at once up to the usual points of excellence which belong to the race.

The very first requirement the breeder should insist upon in his animals, is *perfect health* and strong constitution. The creature should not only be sound in its individual self, but should be descended from robust and sound ancestors. No *hereditary tendencies* to disease should be tolerated. Diseases of almost any kind, even the slightest, are transmitted from parent to offspring with wonderful certainty and subtlety. They may remain dormant in the system for years, and break out when least suspected, even at a remove of three or four generations. The stock bull, in his blood and quality, is the most important instrument in good breeding, as his qualities are to affect, more or less, all the young blood of his get. His predominating merits should be, a neat head, having a fine muzzle, a quick, prominent, and mild eye, with a light waxy horn, and a thin, lively ear. A neck gracefully set, not over heavy, but strong and muscular, and somewhat arching, with a clean throat, and little dewlap. This should be followed by upright open, and well spread shoulders. Behind these should spring out, at as near a right angle as possible to the back, a full, round, deep set of ribs, terminating forward with a prominent, well developed brisket, and behind with a full and deep flank. With such ribs, brisket and flank, goes constitution and stamina. Without them, goes weakness, and a disposition to degeneracy. After the ribs, let general levelness, breadth and depth of body, with fineness and symmetry, and, beyond all, a soft, elastic touch, be had, as far as possible. Minor defects may be partially overlooked for the great excellence of stamina, vigor, and sound health.

Let him be not only *good in himself*, but behind that, let his *pedigree* be good. A decidedly bad or deficient bull, no matter what his pedigree, is worthless, for the reason that it is a condition incident to all races of animals, be they ever so well bred, to sometimes throw off a worthless or defective offspring, as there is no knowing how far back in ancestry a bad cross may not show itself in the subsequent generation, or what strange influence may affect the dam at the moment of conception, or during the period of gestation. An animal may have a pedigree of almost interminable length, and every cross in it be a bad one. Of course, such will be an unsafe one to breed from. The length of pedigree, therefore, does not govern the *quality* of the animal. The quality and reputation of the animals *through* which he is descended, does more. When the pedigree runs back through *good* animals, and the creature himself justifies it, confidence may be placed in him. In making a selection, I would, if possible, look through the several individuals of his family, and see how they appear—whether they possess good qualities, and whether such good qualities were uniform in the family; for such uniformity is great excellence, as showing that the blood descends with certainty. It was this uniformity in the characteristics of his stock which gave Mr. Bates so much reputation. So it was, and is now, with some breeders. When Mr. Bates had bred his Duchesses in and in, to the last degree he dared go, as he did, to preserve their uniform excellence, he was obliged to go into another herd for a new stock bull. This he procured in Belvedere, bred by Mr. Stephenson, whose herd was of ancient descent, and also uniform in their good qualities. In the use of this bull, Mr. Bates continued the good qualities of his herd, and recovered those that he had partially lost by two long adhering to his old blood; but in a few years he resorted to still another cross, the "Matchem Cow," (on one side possessing the same blood as Belvedere had in him,) from which descended, through the blood of Belvedere and his Duchess cows, his Oxford family. The Matchem blood brought in stamina and vigor, with, perhaps, a trifle more coarseness than his old stock possessed, but he gained in the increased fecundity of his herd, and by the good judgment with which he bred them, he kept up the main characteristic of uniformity as before. Probably few men in England could have so succeeded, for Mr. Bates knew precisely what he wanted; and after selecting the animal to use, he knew how to breed it.

Some breeders wish to develop the milking properties of their Short Horns, when they do not already possess it, or to perpetuate it where they do. This can only be done with success by breeding with bulls descended from milking families, and cultivating the milking quality in the breeding cows, by keeping them constantly in milk for at least nine or ten months in the year, and giving them highly stimulating and milk-producing food, such as fresh grass, roots, and meal slops. Such as these will not be *show* cows, of course, for they will be low in flesh. A cow can not carry high flesh and yield great messes of milk at the same time. They may carry high flesh when off their milk, with certainty, as it is not necessary to lose the fattening *quality* for milking purposes. For milking, too, heifers must come in young, say from two to three years old, and be kept in milk for at least nine months with their first calf, that the milking faculties may be exercised, and kept in full play; or, by soon drying them off, the milking faculty may be measurably bred out, and the dam be devoted to the production of feeding animals altogether.

It is a positive injury to a breeding animal, either male or female, to get them into high flesh for show purposes. Many a valuable beast has been thus spoiled for future usefulness. A very high state of flesh is not a *natural* state of the animal. The generative secretions become overloaded and contracted from the inordinate mass of fat inside, from which, in many cases, they never breed so good calves as before. This shows the great folly of awarding prizes to overfed *breeding* animals at our cattle-shows; and until the managers of such societies as encourage it reform their action, *good* breeders will not risk the spoiling of their best cattle to put them in competition. Yet, breeding animals should show good condition—passable beef, if you please—but nothing more.

The same rule, with allowances for differences in sex, should be made in the selection of cows, as in bulls, where the purse is allowed to go hand in hand with the taste; yet, as the very choicest specimens are not abundant, and not often to be had at a price, the purchaser is apt to be limited in his selections to a second or third choice; but in these, the substantial qualities that have been named should not be overlooked.

CANADA THISTLE—(SNICUS ARVENSIS.)

Some time since, a correspondent desired to know the peculiar appearance of the Canada Thistle, inasmuch as never having seen the plant, he could not be sure of recognizing it when he should see it. That is a happy ignorance, and he may congratulate himself if it shall forever so continue. There are persons and things in this world with whom acquaintance is not desirable, and the Canada Thistle may be safely reckoned as one of them.

Nevertheless it may be of consequence to know how the thing would look were we to see it, especially if there is danger that at some time we may, against our will, be introduced to it. With such a notion we introduce to our readers this old pest of Vermont and the Genessee Valley of New-York.

It is not a worse looking thistle than many others. Taken individually, it is not worse, and would it be content to grow by itself, now and then a plant here and there about the wayside, and up and down in neglected fields, it might be safe to despise and let it alone. But it is too ambitious a plant for that. It must grow everywhere. It must fill all the fields into which it can get a foothold. It must overrun the pasture; it must fill the meadow; it will overtop the oats; it will fight for equality with the corn; it must be everywhere like David Jones' yellow dog, and everywhere it must be disagreeable. It is as hateful as a Maclura hedge and nowhere as beautiful, and not by a thousand times as safe; and as to *use*, it has none whatever. You can not touch it or be among it with either comfort or safety. Green or dry, dead or alive, it is the same uncomfortable enemy.

The Canada thistle is propagated in two ways. First it spreads by *stolons*, that is, it puts out runners like a strawberry plant, with the difference that the thistle runners run underground; and every now and then a root is put down; and where the root goes down, a stalk springs up. This goes on indefinitely, and you can never be sure you have eradicated the plant till you have destroyed all those stolons or infant roots, for though you kill the old plant, the young ones may have got a foothold, and will grow in spite of it. Next, it propagates by seed. This is matured in bountiful quantities, and each seed is provided with a kind of balloon apparatus like any other thistle seed, or like that of the Dandeloin, by which it is buoyed up in the air and floats about wherever the wind carries it, till it gets tired floating or its parachutes get broken. A few plants therefore will seed a neighborhood; a neighborhood will seed a district, and a district will seed a State.

It is a dreadful accommodating plant, tha is, it accommodates itself wonderfully. Give it a good clean soil, and it will grow up thick, stout, straight and tall, like a parcel of fire or horse weeds. Keep it in the grass, and it will trail modestly about, with a few crooked and struggling stems, as if it deemed itself unworthy to live but with the violets or other paragons of modesty. It is as we say here in the west, "all kinds of a plant."

Friends, do you want it on your farm? If you do, *neglect it.* You need not desire it, you do not need to run after it; it will come to you very likely, and once with you it *will stay*, however bad you wish it were gone; provided you do not root it out, by the most determined and energetic action. The first plant of it must be dug up and kept dug up, the thing being done ten times in a season if needs be. It can not live if it be suffered to have no leaves, since they are its lungs; and if kept extirpated it must die.—Prairie Far.

ECONOMIC CULTIVATION.

We have repeatedly seated ourselves with the intent of writing upon the best mode of cultivating the various crops, and almost as often have we actually had our attention turned to and written upon some other topic. The reason is this: No one, except the favored few who have all the means at command needful in carrying out their plans of farm operations, can do half as well as they know how to do. Their land is poor, and they have not the means of enriching it. Tell a man that a purse full of gold is only an inch beyond his utmost reach, and you do him no good but to excite feelings of discontent and envy, and even lead him to forego certain improvements which are within his reach, because they pay so little compared with what he is really anxious but unable to do. Poverty is a terrible burden, and nowhere is it felt more than among intelligent farmers.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, we would now urge this class of farmers, first, to expend their labor and their fertilizers upon a much smaller quantity of land than is usually done. Instead of planting five acres of corn, plant two, or even one; and plow and cultivate this small field to the entire neglect, if need be, of other acres. If those lie fallow it will be useful to the soil, and at least no money will be wasted upon them.

We say to such farmers, in the second place, you can do more than you have done in the preparation of various composts. There are very few farmers who can not double and treble the quantity and value of these necessary means of restoring vigor to worn out and barren soils. By diminishing the extent of surface under cultivation, and by proper industry in preparing composts, there is scarcely a farm in the country that can not be made to produce its sixty, and seventy, and eighty bushels of corn to the acre. And even though one acre only is brought up to this desirable condition, a series of years will suffice to bring the whole farm to a high state of cultivation. If only small fields are made thus productive, the hopes and courage of the farmer will be thereby excited, and he will stand up man fully among men, and tell of his success as well as they.

We would not advise farmers of limited means to buy guano nor phosphates at anything like their present prices. Pay your poorer neighbor his six or eight shillings a day (if you can not exchange work with him) to help you collect leaves from the forest, mud from the meadow, carting the latter only after it is tolerably dry, peat or marl from the bog; and if you can buy barn-yard manures, mix them with turfs, sods, roots, weeds, dirty straw, spoilt hay, chips that are unfit to burn; and if you are conveniently situated for it, get sea-weeds from the sea-shore, oyster shells, old bones, horns, etc. Dead animals are of great value. The offal from a slaughter-house, worthless scraps of hides, bones, etc., should be used only with large quantities of common soil, or of some other solvent. Not one in a hundred turns to the best account the contents of privies, hog pens, soap-suds, and other kinds of waste.

Pardon us for asking why will you tax yourselves so severely by neglecting any of these modes of improving your lands? It may be only such neglect that keeps you in poverty; and though you enter upon the work with many painful doubts in relation to the result, we will assure you against loss from any such operations, if conducted with tolerable discretion.

Now is the time to commence this system of operation for the next year. On every leisure day, let the time be occupied in these preparatory labors. Every hour thus spent is worth something, and will tend to fill your purse at the time of harvest.

Almost all farmers sadly neglect their barn-yard manures. Were these properly cared for, their value, as a whole, would be more than double.

Having thus suggested the means by which manures may be provided, the next inquiry is, how and where shall they be used? Perhaps we are unable to give the information that many would desire, for reasons suggested in the last number. Perhaps you have an enclosure that for many years produced very large crops, and you just looked on and watched your opportunity to take from it the most you could get, returning nothing to it. It may be that it is so situated that it is almost able to take care of itself, like much of the intervale on the Connecticut, which is annually enriched by being overflowed.—The Plough, Loom, and Anvil.

To Preserve Pippins in Slices.—Take the fairest pippins, pare them, and cut them in slices a quarter of an inch thick, without taking out the cores; boil two or three lemons, and slice them with the apples; take the same weight of white sugar (or clarified brown sugar), put half a gill of water for each pound of sugar, dissolve it, and set it over the fire; when it is boiling hot put in the slices, let them boil very gently until they are clear, then take them with a skimmer and spread them on flat dishes to cool; boil the syrup until it is quite thick, put the slices on flat dishes, and pour the syrup over. These may be done a day before they are wanted; two hours will be sufficient to make a fine dish for dessert or supper.

AFTERMATH, OR SECOND HAY CROP.

The intrinsic value of aftermath, does, not, by the generality of our farmers, appear to be properly appreciated. After many year's experience, I am inclined to regard good aftermath one of the best and most salutary articles of food for young animals, that the farm affords. Many, I am aware, will dissent from this view in consequence of the injudicious methods usually adopted in curing it. To be good, aftermath should be cut in clear, dry weather, and permitted to remain in the swath till the grass has wilted; it should then be turned, and, when wilted throughout, be carefully and evenly spread. A few turnings will be sufficient to "make it," or bring it to that state which will warrant its being put in cock. When the grass is very succulent, a small quantity of salt sprinkled on as the cocks are found, will tend greatly to accellerate the curative process, and add also very considerably to the nutritiousness of the hay. Owing to the large quantity of moisture contained in aftermath, it is rarely well cured, and being thrown into close and compact cocks—often when the weather is damp—the acid fermentation which results from the presence of excessive moisture, greatly deteriorates the article, and renders it unfit for use as a food for stock.

In the autumn of 1834, I had a piece of soil on which there was produced a most abundant crop of aftermath, the grasses being mostly red clover and herds-grass. I had previously been induced to consider the article as nearly valueless; but at the suggestion of a neighbor—a man of much practical experience—I determined to make an experiment, and ascertain, as near as circumstances would enable me to do so, the value of the same for feeding purposes. The grass was mowed early in the morning, and was allowed to remain, the weather being very warm, till about five o'clock in the afternoon, when it was turned to prevent the portions that had received the benefit of the air and of the solar rays from the injurious effects of the heavy night dew, which, if it effects no other injurious result, renders the fibre crisp, and less disposed to become elastic and solid when finally cured. The next day, the swaths were spread, care being had to shake out thoroughly all the dense and compact portions, and to disseminate the whole evenly and lightly over the ground. Supposing the same course would be judicious here as in the details of ordinary hay making, I kept the mass stirring during the day, and at night, before the dew commenced falling, the whole was put in cock. The same process was pursued the next day, with the exception that on putting the hay in cock, a pint of fine salt was sprinkled over the layers as they were deposited by the fork. In this condition, it remained two days, when it was carted to the barn, and mowed, about six quarts of salt being added, as there was some succulence which I apprehended might prove injurious to the hay, especially as I designed it for calves and young cattle. I commenced feeding it to the latter immediately on their being taken from the pasture—the hay being chaffed and mixed with rasped roots—principally carrots and ruta baga turnips, with a small quantity of corn and cob meal. The feed was prepared the day previous to feeding it out, until the weather became so cold as not to admit of it, when warm water was added. I never yet have seen a more rapid development of flesh and muscle than was induced by this method of feeding, nor have I seen animals kept in better health. The calves—eight in number—did equally as well, and its effects upon cows, though perhaps not so markedly apparent, was yet very favorable.

Whether, on the whole, the cutting of aftermath, and its appropriation as a means of sustenance for stock, is more economical, and permitting it to decay on the soil, is a question as yet rather problematical. The quantity of decomposable matter contained in the produce of an acre of well-set grass, would no doubt greatly augment the *humus* of the soil, provided it were allowed to remain on the ground, though it would be far more effectual could it be put beneath the surface. The presence of a large mass of undecayed vegetable matter on the surface of a mowing field, is certainly not desirable, and although it may act beneficially by keeping the soil light around the roots, and protecting, to a limitsd extent from cold, during winter, its removal is nevertheless to be recommended when the crop can be applied as above.—An Old Farmer, in Germantown Telegraph.

Peas and Sweet Potatoes for Fattening Hogs.—Mr. Nathan Winslow, of Perquimons county, fattens his hogs for slaughter and sale, as well as for his own consumption, almost entirely on peas and sweet potatoes. From the 1st to the 15th of September, the hogs are turned on a pea field. At the same time, a small portion of sweet potato ground is close at hand, and the hogs are turned therein every day. This is done because he deems it better for the health of the hogs. Every night alternately the hogs are turned into the pea field and the potatoes—new portions of the latter being brought in as the first enclosed are exhausted. Thus kept on the peas and potatoes alone (for he supposes they get very little from the woods) the hogs become very fat. For change of food and late in the fattening, swill is added to the food, made of turnips boiled with a little corn meal and seasoned with salt. Mr. Winslow is confident that all the corn consumed during the whole time of fattening does not exceed the average of a peck for each hog. Therefore the fattening is due in a very slight degree to corn, and almost entirely to he peas and potatoes. Peas alone will fatten very considerably, but not enough to make good pork. But with potatoes the hogs are not only made very fat, but their fat is even more firm and white than of hogs fattened on corn. After cold weather requires that potatoes should be dug, they are boiled before being fed to the hogs. Mr. Winslow is a very large and successful raiser of hogs and seller of pork. I learn from others that this pork, fattened as above stated, is deemed the best in the markets.—Southern Planter.

OXEN VERSUS HORSES.

An enthusiastic admirer of oxen, in pleading their claims in the Stock Register, says:

Oxen are much better in many respects for working than horses; some of which advantages may be summed up as follows. They cost much less in the first instance, and are therefore more within the reach of men of moderate means. They are less liable to disease, and if an accident occurs which disables them from labor, they may be converted into food. If a horse should happen to break a leg, a bullet might as well be put through his head at once, for he is worthless ever after; but if the same accident happens to an ox, he can be converted immediately into beef, provided he is sufficiently in flesh; or if this is not the case the wound can generally be so far cured as to enable the animal afterwards to fatten.

The ox will eat less food and of a coarser kind than the horse, and needs less attention in order to thrive. He will work in localities impossible for the horse, and go forward patiently with labors which would chafe the other into utter intractibility.

No man who has ever witnessed the two kinds of animals at work around a saw-mill yard, for instance, can fail to have been struck wth this difference in their character. Hitch a span of horses to a log which is too heavy for them to start at once, and in nine cases out of ten after one or two efforts they will either break their harness, splinter a whiffletree, or balk, and refuse to draw at all. Now try it with a yoke of well broken oxen, and they will lay out their utmost strength with the same gentleness and good will for the twentieth time, as they did at first.

TRUE VALUE OF A FARM.

There is something in the owning a piece of ground which affects me as do the old ruins of England. I am free to confess that the value of a farm is not chiefly in its crops of cereal grain, its orchards of fruit, and in its herbs, but in those larger and more easily reaped harvests of associations, fancies, and dreamy broodings which it begets. From boyhood I have associated classical civic virtues and old heroic integrity with the soil. No one who has peopled his young brain with the fancies of Grecian mythology but comes to feel a certain magical fancy for the earth. The very smell of fresh-turned earth brings up as many dreams and visions of the country as sandal-wood does of Oriental scenes. At any rate, I feel, in walking under these trees and about their slopes, something of that enchantment of vague and mysterious glimpses of the past which I once felt about the ruins of Kenilworth Castle. For thousands of years this piece of ground hath wrought its tasks. Old slumberous forests used to darken it; innumerable deer have tramped across it; foxes have blinked through its bushes; and wolves have howled and growled as they pattered along its rustling leaves with empty maws. How many birds; how many flocks of pigeons, thousands of years ago; how many hawks dashing wildly among them; how many insects, nocturnal and diurnal: how many mailed bugs, and limber serpents, gliding among mossy stones, have had possession here before my day! It will not be long before I, too, shall be wasted and recordless as they.

H. W. Beecher.

THE FARMERS' FUTURE.

An English correspondent of the New-York Tribune, expatiates on the prospective introduction of steam power as an aid in agricultural operations, as follows:

"The Farmer's Future will be found in the application of steam to the cultivation of the soil! We are rapidly coming to the conclusion here that the good old plow is a humbug. We begin to think that spade husbandry applied by steam, is the right thing; indeed, there are some among us of the opinion that a machine may be invented which should, in effect, plow, sow, harrow and roll together—a machine, in fact, which should make a seed bed and sow the seed all at one operation. There has already been one steam engine exhibited in this country which will walk anywhere, and do anything it is required to do. It has feet about the size of yours, sir, and puts them down upon the ground, one after the other, very much after the fashion of a dandy going up Broadway, only the feet of the machine are fixed on wheels and revolve regularly, instead of moving up and down awkwardly, like his. This machine will go through a plowed field very comfortably, and rather quicker than a good hunter will get over it; and as it will drag a dozen plows after it, I do not see, for my part, why it should not be made to carry as part and parcel of itself, a mechanism that will readily convert the untilled ground into a seed-bed. Well, then as to drainage. I saw a machine the other day that would dig, drain and lay down sixteen and a half feet of piping per minute, the pipes being rather more regularly and satisfactorily laid than any skilled workman can lay them. The machine labored under the disadvantage of being cumbrous, and of being made to be worked by a stationary engine. But having got thus far, it seems to be only one step further to give us steam application to the soil, so as to enable twenty times the quantity of land to be put under cultivation by the same amount of labor, and at no greater cost than now. Then we may hope for a produce of cheap corn, the great desideratum in this land of sweat and toil, where it depends upon a shilling or two, more or less, in the price of food, not only whether a man can reap the advantages of his labor, but absolutely, too often, whether he can continue to exist.

Yes, to the application of improved machinery to the earth must we look for an accession of home comforts, of world-wide prosperity, of universal happiness! To

Thee! O, bountiful God of Nature, we offer our first thanks that Thou hast given us the great seed bed whereon we live and move, and whence we have our being. To Industry be given our next tribute, and then let us thank Art and Science that teach us how to make the best uses of the means so bountifully placed at our disposal."

Apple Bread.—A very light pleasant bread is made in France by a mixture of apples and flour, in the proportion of one of the former to two of the latter. The usual quantity of yeast is employed as in making common bread, and is beaten with flour and warm pulp of the apples after they have been boiled, and the dough is then considered as set; it is then put into a proper vessel, and allowed to rise for eight or twelve hours, and then baked in long loaves. Very little water is requisite; none, generally, if the apples are very fresh.

To Preserve Apples.—Pare and core, and cut them in halves or quarters; take as many pounds of the best brown sugar; put a teacup of water to each pound. When it is dissolved set it over the fire; and when boiling hot, put in the fruit, and let it boil gently until it is clear, and the syrup thick; take the fruit with a skimmer on to flat dishes, spread it to cool, then put it in pots or jars, and pour the jelly over. Lemons boiled tender in water, and sliced thin, may be boiled with the apples.

To Restore the Drowned.—Convey the body to the nearest house or shelter, *with the head raised.* Strip and rub it dry. Wrap in warm blankets. Inflate the lungs by closing the nostrils with thumb and finger, while you blow forcibly into the mouth, and then press on the chest with the hand. Again blow into the mouth, and again press; and so on for ten minutes, or until the patient breathes naturally. Keep the body warm and the extremities also. Continue to rub, and do not give up for an hour or more, if there is the least reason to hope. Indeed persons have been restored after two hours.

Manufacture of Superphosphate of Lime.—C. F. Bernard, of Plymouth, England, has taken out a patent for the manufacture of dry phosphate of lime, suitable for agricultural purposes as a manure, by submitting calcined bones, or animal charcoal, to the action of sulphuric acid in a reverberatory furnace. The mass thus obtained is then dissolved in water, and that which is soluble is taken up, but the insoluble is not. It is concentrated by boiling to drive off the water, so as to produce a granular mass of high fertilizing power.

To Clean Paint.—Smear a piece of flannel with the best whiting, mixed to the consistency of common paste, in warm water. Rub the surface to be cleaned quite briskly, and wash off with pure cold water. Grease spots will in this way be almost instantly removed, as well as other filth, and the paint will retain its brilliancy and beauty unimpaired.

COOKING MEATS.

A well-cooked piece of meat should be full of its own juice and gravy. In roasting, therefore, it should be exposed to a quick fire, that its external surface may be made to contract at once, and the albumen to coagulate, before the juice has had time to escape from within. And so in boiling. When a piece of beef or mutton is plunged into water, the outer part contracts, the albumen which is near the surface coagulates, and the internal juice is prevented either from escaping into the water by which it is surrounded, or from being diluted or weakened by the admission of water among it. When cut up, therefore, the meat yields much gravy, and is rich in flavor. Hence a beef-steak or a mutton-chop is done quickly, and over a quick fire, that the natural juices may be retained. On the other hand, if the meat be exposed to a slow fire, its pores remain open, the juice continues to flow from within as it has dried from the surface, and the flesh pines, and becomes hard dry and unsavory. Or if it be put into cold or tepid water, which is afterwards gradually brought to a boil, much of the Albumen is extracted before it coagulates, the natural juices for the most part flow out, and the meat is served in a nearly tasteless state. Hence to procure good boiled meat, it should be put at once into water already brought to a boil. But to make beef-tea, mutton-broth, and other meat soups, the flesh should be put into cold water, and this afterwards very slowly warmed, and finally boiled. The advantage derived from simmering—a term not unfrequent in cookery books, depends very much upon the effects of slow boiling, as above explained.

Hint on Household Management.—Have you ever observed what a dislike servants have to anything cheap? They hate saving their master's money. I tried this experiment with great success the other day. Finding we consumed a vast deal of soap, I sat down in my thinking chair, and took the soap question into consideration, having reason to suspect we were using a rather expensive article, where a much cheaper one would serve the purpose better. I ordered half-a-dozen pounds of both sorts, but took the precaution of changing the papers on which the prices were marked before giving them into the hands of Betty!

"Well, Betty, which soap do you find washes best?"

"Oh, please, sir, the dearest in the blue paper, it makes the lather as well again as the other."

"Well, Betty, you shall always have it then."

And thus the unsuspecting Betty saved me some pounds a year, and washed the clothes better.—Sydney Smith.

Four Hunrred Years Ago.—The first book ever printed with a date appeared in 1455, just four centuries ago this very year. Nine years after, the Koran began to be publicly read at Constantinople, and about the same time the Bible was sent forth on the wings of the press.

SHAPING CATTLE'S HORNS.

My first attempt to correct the freaks of nature in this matter, was upon the horns of a pair of steers then owned by my father. Without giving the details, suffice it to say that I *compelled* the horns of one steer to take a more upright position, and at the same time a broader view, so as to correspond with those of the other. Since that time I have had several cases, and have never failed of success. In my own opinion the best time is to commence in the month of March, and continue the operation till the horns become hardened for the winter. The process is simply this: if you wish the horns to grow more upright, you must take a knife or other instrument, and by shaving or scraping, reduce the shell of the horn to about one half the original thickness, as a general rule, (but this must depend on the amount you wish to alter the horn) upon the *under* side of the horn. And if at the same time you wish to spread or contract, always upon the opposite side of the horn from the direction in which you wish it to turn. The horn should always be left perfectly smooth, and occasionally oiled over with some penetrating oil. If the horns are to be corrected but little, the operation of thinning once may be sufficient, but if they are more imperfect it may be necessary to follow them up with more thinning till they are made to yield?

How to Plow under Tall Weeds.—Where weeds have not been kept down by other crops, or by close pasturing, they have, as might be expected, made a most luxuriant growth; and as many such fields will have to be plowed for wheat, and other fall crops, it becomes a matter of much importance to know how we can best turn them under with the plow, so as to be completely out of the way of the harrow and drill. An excellent way to do this, is to fasten one end of a heavy log-chain to the end of a double-tree to which the farrow, or off-horse is attached, bringing the other under the beam of the plow, just before the share, and confining it there. The chain should lag enough to touch the ground, or nearly so. A little practice will teach how tight it should be. By this plan the weeds are drawn into the furrow and completely covered by the furrow-slice falling on them while there. Will somebody tell us of a better way?

Quick Work.—It was once the fashion to wear coats, the material for which had not long before been on the back of the sheep. For rapidity of work in this way, I know nothing that can compete with the achievement of Coxeter, of Greenham Mills, near Newbury. He had a couple of South Down sheep shorn at his factory, at five o'clock in the morning; the wool thus produced was put through the usual processes; and by a quarter past six in the evening, it resulted in a complete damson-colored coat, which was worn at an evening party by Sir John Throckmorton. A wager for a thousand guineas was won by this feat, with three-quarters of an hour to spear. The sheep were roasted whole, and devoured at a splendid banquet. In one day they afforded comfort to both the inward and the outward man.—Habits and Men.

COLDS.

" How do you do?" " Pretty well, thank you, only I have got a dreadful cold."

We have heard that question and answer so frequently of late, that we begin to suspect it is the pass word of some new order. Every body has a cold now-a-days; for ourselves, we have one that would do credit to a native Mexican dropped suddenly into Greenland, and—a bit of sympathy does one get in his affection. If you have a tooth-ache or a head-ache, or the gout, or an ague, every man you meet is ready to give you forty remedies, every one of which he can declare from his personal knowledge to be *infallible:* but a cold! every body has *them*, and the only response you get is, " Ah, indeed; colds are *very* prevalent now-a-days."

The subject is one of such universal interest that the following passages from the Journal of Health can not fail to prove interesting:

HOW DO PEOPLE TAKE COLD.

Not by tumbling into the river and draggling home wet as a drowned rat; not by being pitched into the mud, or spilled out in the snow in sleighing time; not by walking for hours over the shoe top in mud; not by soaking in the rain without an umbrella; not by scrubbing the floor until the unnameable sticks to you like a wet rag; not by hoeing potatoes until you are in a lather of sweat; not by trying to head a pig in mid-winter, and induce him to run the other way, for he won't do any such thing; not by essaying to teach Biddy to make mince pies for Christmas, when you don't know yourself, and then worrying yourself into a perspiration because the pies stuck to the pan, and came out in a muss, forgetting that pie-pans, like people, are rather the better for a little greasing, alias soft soap; those are not the things which give people colds; and yet people are all the time telling us how they " caught their death by exposure."

The time for taking cold is after taking exercise; the place is in your own house, or office, or counting room. It is the getting cool too quick after exercising. For example you walk very fast, to get to the railroad station; or to the ferry; or to catch an omnibus; or to make time for an appointment; your mind being ahead of you, the body makes an extra effort to keep up with it; and when you get to the desired spot, you raise your hat and find yourself in a perspiration; you take a seat, and feeling quite comfortable as to temperature, you begin to talk with a friend; or, if a New-Yorker, to read a newspaper; and before you are aware of it, you experience a sensation of chilliness, and the thing is done! You look around to see where the cold comes, and find a window open near you, or a door, or that you have taken a seat at the forward part of the car, and it moving against the wind, a strong draft is made through the crevices.

Young ladies take their colds in grandly dark parlors unused and unfired for a week; warm enough were they, almost too warm in the gay, sun-shiny street without; and that parlor felt comfortably cool at first, but the last curl of the visited would not dangle satisfactorily, and while compelling it, (young ladies now-a-days make it a point of principle not to be thwarted in anything, not even in wedding rich Tom to please the old folks, when they love poor Dick and intend to please themselves,) while conquering that beautiful but unruly curl, the visitor makes an unexpected meeting with a chill, which calls her to the—grave.

I can not give further space to illustrations to arrest the attention of the careless, but will reiterate the principle for the thoughtful and observant; get cool slowly.

A SUCCESSFUL RETORT.

On one occasion, a clergyman, meeting a doctor of his acquaintance who was a professional Deist, was accosted by the doctor in the following manner:

" Do you follow preaching to save souls?"

" Yes."

" Did you ever see a soul?"

" No."

" Did you ever hear a soul?"

" No."

" Did you ever taste a soul?"

" No."

" Did you ever smell a soul?"

" No."

" Did you ever feel a soul?"

" Yes."

" Well," said the doctor, " there are four of the five senses against one, upon the question whether there is a soul."

The clergyman then asked his adversary if he was a doctor of medicine?

" Yes."

" Did you ever see a pain?"

" No."

" Did you ever hear a pain?"

" No."

" Did you ever taste a pain?"

" No."

" Did you ever smell a pain?"

" No."

" Did you ever feel a pain?"

" Yes."

" Well, then," said the clergyman, " there are four senses against one upon the question whether there can be pain—and yet, sir, you know there is a pain, and I know there is a soul."

Popular Definitions.—What is fashion?—Dinner at midnight, and headaches in the morning.

What is wit?—That peculiar kind of talk that leads to pulled noses and broken heads.

What is idleness?—Working yellow mountains on a pink subsoil, or a blue-tailed dog in sky-colored convulsions.

What is joy?—To count your money and find it overrun a hundred dollars.

What is conscience?—Something that a guilty man feels every time it thunders.

What is contentment?—To sit in the house and see other people stuck in the mud. In other words, to be better off than our neighbors.

THE NOBLEMAN AND THE COW-BOY.

Some time since the Duke of Buccleuch, in one of his walks, purchased a cow from a person in the neighborhood of Dalkeith, and left orders to send it to his place the following morning. According to agreement the cow was sent, and the Duke, who happened to be *en dishabille* and walking in the avenue, espied a little fellow ineffectually attempting to drive the animal to its destination. The boy, not knowing the Duke, bawled out to him, " Hy, mun! come here an' gie's a han' wi' this beast." The Duke saw the mistake, and determined on having a joke with the little fellow. Pretending, therefore, not to understand him, the Duke walked on slowly, the boy still craving his assistance. At last he cried in a tone of distress, " Come, here, mun, an' help us, an' as sure as onything I'll give you half I'll get!" This last solicitation had the desired effect. The Duke went and lent a helping hand. " And now," said the Duke, as they trudged along, " how much do you think you'll get for this job?" " Oh, I dinna ken," said the boy; " but I'm sure o' something, for the folk up at the house are good to a' body." As they approached the house the Duke darted from the boy and entered by a different way. He called a servant and put a soverign into his hand, saying. " Give that to the boy that has brought the cow. The Duke returned to the avenue, and was soon rejoined by the boy. " Well, how much did you get?" said the Duke. " A shilling," said the boy, " And there's the half o't t'ye." " But you surely got more than a shilling," said the Duke. " No," said the boy, with the utmost earnestness, " As sure as death that's a' I got—and d'ye no think it's plenty?" " I do not," said the Duke; " there must be some mistake, and as I am acquainted with the Duke, if you will return I think I'll get you more." The boy consented; back they went. The Duke rang the bell, and ordered all the servants to be assembled. " Now," said the Duke to the boy, " point me out the person that gave you the shilling." " It was that chap there, with the apron," said the boy, pointing to the butler. The delinquent confessed, fell on his knees and attempted an apology; but the Duke interrupted him, indignantly ordered him to give the boy the sovereign, and quit his service instantly. " You have lost," said the Duke, " your money, your situation and your character, by your covetousness; learn henceforth that 'honesty is the best policy.' " The boy by this time recognised his assistant in the person of the Duke; and the Duke was so delighted with the sterling worth and honesty of the boy that he ordered him to be sent to school, kept there and provided for at his own expense.

Mr. Dunn Brown remarked to us the other day, that it was all very well to say, " never go to law," but what was a fellow to do when law came to him? Mr. Brown's observation was called forth by an oblong piece of paper, with which an officer had favored him. There was a great deal of force in Mr. Dunn Brown's way of putting the question.

CRANBERRIES—THEIR CULTIVATION.

Details of a Practical Man's Experience.

I chose for the experiment a maple swamp on high land, containing peat (95-100 vegetable matter) from one to ten feet deep. We commenced draining it in June 1849, and having set a few vines for trial, we proceeded to cultivate corn and potatoes; but finding, after 2 or 3 years, that we were obliged to keep it too dry for cranberries, we concluded to set it all with vines, in order to flow it, which would injure other crops, and I have now nine acres of vines, mostly set within about 3 years. My mode of cultivation is as follows, viz: we clear up the swamp by taking off the top, roots and all, to the depth of one foot or more, (which makes excellent manure for the adjoining upland) and having drained it by ditching, mark out the ground with the corner of the hoe, and set out the vines, which we have obtained from the common wild bogs, wherever we could get them; and having dropped 5 or 6 vines in the hoe mark, stamp them in with the heel, and haul on some dirt with the toe, covering the vines about two-thirds up with dirt. This operation may be performed at any time of the year, when the ground is not frozen, if not too dry. It is then necessary to keep them clear of grass and weeds.

I have heretofore thought that grass would not hurt them after the vines got well spread; but I am convinced by this year's experience that they can not be kept too clean. I have one acre that was set 4 years ago. About three-quarters of the acre has been covered with rushes, and is now; while the other quarter at one end of the lot has been kept clean. I have the past week measured off one square rod of the clean vines, and gathered two and a half bushels of berries from the rod, which is no more than an average of the quarter acre, which will be testified to by the gentleman who assisted me in picking them, as also by several other gentlemen who have seen them since, as the other berries yet remain on the vines. The other three-quarters acre covered with grass, has been mostly picked; and although the vines are as large, I shall not get 25 bushels of berries from the three-quarters acre—the one yielding at the rate of 400 bushels per acre, the other about 30, showing the great advantage of keeping the vines clean.

My meadow would probably have yieled 100 barrels more this year, had it been kept clean. I pick my berries by hand, as I am convinced there is no advantage in making them.

We have to pick after the rake, and I do not think the vines will bear as well the next year. I flow my meadow about 2 feet deep in the month of December, and keep it on until the middle of May, when I draw it down, leaving about 2 inches of water on the surface under the vines, as long as there is any fear of the frosts; then keep it as near the top of the ground as I can. The rake also bruises the berry, and causes it to rot. I find the cranberry will begin to bear well from 3 to 5 years after setting. The cost of cultivation I shall put in round numbers as follows, viz. Cost of land $12 per acre, cleaning $100, vines and setting $50, cost of cultivation $10 per year—for 4 years $40; total $202. But the top that we take off is worth $20 for manure, leaving $182. Interest for 4 years, makes $229.34 per acre. My 4-year-old vines that are clear from grass, (say half an acre more or less,) will average 300 bushels per acre. I have been offered $2.50 per bushel above the cost of picking, which gives one a clear profit over and above the cost of land and cultivation on the half acre, of $260.33. I do not gather my berries until they are ripe; for if picked while green, they are bitter and unfit for use; although by spreading they may become quite red, still they are not worth half price.

They may be spread on floors, or put in good barrels and piled on the north side of a building, until cold weather, when they should be put under cover, in a cool cellar, or building, where it will not freeze hard.

The berry will not be as red as it would be if spread, but I think it will keep better. For my experiment with the cranberry on upland, I selected a piece of new land where the wood had just been cut off. I had it dug over with the grub hoe in the fall of 1849, taking out the loose stones and roots; and having prepared 4 square rods, I had it drilled 18 inches apart, filling the drills with peat mud. I took the vines from a wild wet bog in the month of November, and set them about one foot apart in the drills. This is all that has been done for them, except to keep them clear from weeds for 2 years.

In the fall of 1853, I picked from the lot 2 bushels and 3 pecks of berries. In the summer of 1854, they bade fair to yield a much better crop, but were cut off by the hot and dry weather in August, and I did not get quite 2 bushels.

Last winter the vines were killed, probably by the extreme cold weather, but sprang up again from the roots and bloomed very fully—but so late in the season that they have been much affected by the drouth, and I shall not get more than one and a half bushel. The land and labor, with interest for four years, cost about $1.25 per rod. This, as will be seen, gives a good profit; but the cranberry crop is uncertain, unless in situations where they can be flowed in winter and kept moist.

Varieties.—The folly of asserting that there is but one variety of the cranberry, can only be equaled by asserting that there is but one variety of the apple, the pear, or the potato—the former maintaining their peculiar forms, colors, and times of ripening, as distinctly as either of the latter; the large white cranberry, on which there is nothing but a faint blush, (some of them being entirely white,) growing side by side with the small and entirely red berry, that is never one-quarter as large. So with many other kinds. Indeed, they vary in form much more than many distinct varieties of the apple.

I have a large variety on my meadow, by getting the vines from all the wild bogs in the vicinity. I have several kinds growing in separate beds, and have marked several other kinds, which I intend to set by themselves, in the Spring. I have twenty varieties put up for "The American Institute Fair."—Edmund Bagley, in Journal of Commerce.

KEEPING SWEET POTATOES.

A. G., furnishes to the Dollar Newspaper *his* method of preserving potatoes, in which he says, "I dig my crops as soon as the frost has killed the vines, so that I think they are done growing, endeavoring to do this where the ground is at least moderately dry. I remove them in a short time, the sooner the better, to a cellar under my house, at the back of which I have a place divided off like a wheat bin, large enough for the crop. This is made by placing posts or studding in the ground, a few inches, and nailing the tops to the sleepers that support the floor above; then put plank half the length of the bin, meeting at the middle post, twelve or fourteen inches wide, so that you can remove them at pleasure. When you commence filling take out all but one plank, then fill with potatoes until as high as the plank all over the bottom of the bin; then throw over *dry* sand, if you can get it, if not, dry earth will do; sand is preferable because it will penetrate all the open places between the potatoes, and exclude the air—the great secret, I think, in preventing rot. Continue to add plank, and cover each layer as above, and when your crop is all in, cover over from four to six inches deep with sand or dirt.

I never suffer potatoes to be exposed during the winter, compelling those who get them to grabble them out from the top until the dirt accumulates so as to be in the way; I then scrape off a portion, leaving the remainder of the crop always covered. I have been using the same sand for fifteen years. One other remark is, perhaps, necessary; after putting up my crop during the warm weather through the fall months, I keep the door of my cellar open through the day, so that the warm air from the potatoes may the more readily escape. I have been using as fine potatoes, during September, of last year's crop as I ever saw.

Another correspondent has been quite successful in packing them in boxes, which are nailed up after filling the spaces between the potatoes with charcoal.

Bear Grass.—The Pilatka (Fla.) Sun says: "Dr. Sweaberg and another gentleman have been sojourning in our town a few days, on their return from an exploration of the country on the river above this place. They selected this season as the most unfavorable, that they might see the worst condition of the country. The object of Dr. Sweaberg is to establish a number of German families; to cultivate the Bear grass and Sisal hemp, which he believes can be profitably cultivated for cordage and sail-cloth. The Bear grass can be cheaply prepared by a chemical process so as to be of very fine fiber, from which a very good quality of cloth is fabricated.

He is satisfied with the country and the practicability of the enterprise. We were not before aware of the value of the Bear grass, and are inclined to think it possible that at no distant day it may equal in value the cotton crop now shipped from East Florida.

ONE WAY TO CONSTRUCT A MANURE YARD.

A correspondent of the Germantown Telegraph, gives the following directions, which furnish some good hints; though in all directions for preserving manure, we advise to avoid fermentation as much as possible. Let the most of the rotting or decay be done under the soil, so that the escaping gasses may be preserved. The writer says, "All yards designed for composting manure should be concave, and covered with some substance of a solid and indurated character to prevent the infiltration of the liquids, which are the most valuable portion of all substances of a fermentable nature, used for manure. A very valuable article for this purpose, is found in the concrete, made by mixing hydraulic cement with sand, lime, wood ashes and clay, one part of the cement to one part each of the other ingredients, and allowing it to remain in a heap several weeks before using it. The admixture of the components will be more thorough if the mass be turned daily, and carefully worked as mortar is worked for plastering. This will fine it, and render it more plastic and unctuous, and also increase considerably its proclivity to harden when applied. The surface which is to receive it should be perfectly smooth; all stones and other similar substances should be carefully removed, and the concrete thrown and on evenly spread by means of a *float*, or some other instrument which will lay it uniformly and firmly upon the floor. A good workman will put down several scores of yards in a day, and finish it off. A yard of 12 feet in diameter, should have a central depression of nearly three feet, and be occupied by a tank capable of containing from twenty to forty hogsheads, well cemented, and furnished with an efficient pump. If the soil is of a very light and sandy character, it will be well to spread over it a stratum of clay mixed into a mortar by the addition of fine gravel and water. This hardens eventually into an extremely indurated and impervious substance, which furnishes an excellent preparation for the cement, and prevents all possibility of the liquid matters straining into the soil. The top of the tank, or reservoir, should, in all cases, be considerably elevated above the surface of the yard, and provided with a floor, from six to eight feet square, to facilitate the working of the pump. When the floor is filled with materials, the water is thrown over the surface by means of the pump and a system of troughs, conducting to every segment of the circumference; and this should be done as often as twice or thrice each week, to insure the requisite degree of humidity of the mass, and facilitate the fermentation of the manure. Of the method of filling the yard, I will speak more particularly as I proceed. Over this yard, there should be erected a circular roof, supported by posts so arranged as to admit of the spaces between them, on the circumference being closed up, to prevent the ingress of snow during winter. This will obviate the possibility of the yard being flooded by protracted and copious rains, which, instead of accelerating decomposition, tends greatly to retard it. It will also protect the decomposing mass from the deteriorating effects of the atmosphere. A ventilator, constructed on the apex of the roof, will serve to pass off the effluvia which emanates in hot weather, from all decaying substances, unless prevented by the use of absorbents and fixers, such as gypsum, charcoal, sulphuric acid and other similar matters. These are cheap, and should always liberally unite in the formation of all composts of whatever character, and for whatever uses designed.

Assuming the basis of the compost to be clay, the filling in should proceed as follows: The clay being dumped down at the edge of the floor, a stratum four inches deep should be spread over the entire surface, care being taken to minutely pulverize the lumps and render it as fine as possible, that it may be the more readily and thoroughly incorporated with the other ingredients, and the manure, when mixed, be as homogeneous as possible. On this layer, there should be placed a stratum of muck of the best quality, four inches thick, covered with a thin sprinkling of caustic lime, in lumps; then a stratum of chip manure followed by green vegetables, mixed with caustic lime—the latter stratum being from two to three feet deep, and covered with six inches more of clay. Bone dust, gypsum, charcoal, nitrate of potash, sulphates and wood ashes, in equal relative proportions, should be mixed and spread evenly over the surface, and the deposition proceed in the same way till the same is completed. It should now be wet down, and suffered to remain till fermentation becomes active, when a sprinkling of dilute sulphuric acid should be applied, and charcoal dust, soot, and gypsum sowed over the entire surface to arrest, absorb and fix the gaseous exhalations, the escape of which, into free space, greatly diminishes the value of the manure. From three to four weeks should elapse before cutting down, an operation which should be commenced on one side, cutting from the surface through to the bottom, throwing the whole into a heap on one side. When all has been turned, the whole should be again returned to the floor, leveled, and wet down by water from the tank, and kept moist, but not saturated. A few turnings during the season will be sufficient. The addition of other substances is permissible, and these may be with safety added as occasion, or the effects to be produced, require.

Peppermint in Michigan.—The Detroit (Mich.,) Democrat says: "There is more peppermint grown in St. Joseph county, Michigan, than in any other locality in the Union. It is the staple product of one town. The oil is extracted and sold at $4 50 per pound. An acre will yield from fifteen to twenty pounds, making a very profitable crop."

A Fact in Manuring.—A person carrying some orange trees from China to the Prince of Wales' Island, when they had many hundred fruit on them, expected a good crop the next year, but was utterly disappointed; they produced but few. A Chinese, settled in the island, told him if he would have his trees bear, he must treat them as they were accustomed to in China; and he described the following process for providing manure: "A cistern, so lined and covered as to be air-tight, is half-filled with animal matter; and to prevent bursting from the generation of air, a valve is fixed which gives way with some difficulty, and lets no more gas escape than is necessary; the longer the manure is kept the better, till four years, when it is in perfection; it is taken out in the consistence nearly of jelly, and a small portion buried at the root of every orange tree—the result being an uncommonly great yield." A person hearing of the above fact, and wishing to abridge the term of the preparation, thought that boiling animals to a jelly might have a similar if not so strong an effect. Accordingly, he boiled several puppies, and applied the jelly to the roots of a sterile fig-tree; the benefit was very great—the tree from that time for several years bearing in profusion. Hints of this kind are well worth preserving, for though a farmer may neither have the apparatus of the Chinese, nor puppies enough to become an object of attention, yet the reduction of manure to a mucilaginous state ought perhaps to be carried further than it is.

Ways of Committing Suicide.—Wearing thin shoes on damp nights in rainy weather.

Building on the air-tight principle.

Leading a life of enfeebling, stupid laziness, and keeping the mind in a round of unnatural excitement by reading trashy novels.

Going to balls and parties in all sorts of weather, in the thinnest possible dress and dancing till in a great perspiration, and then going home through the damp air.

Keeping children quiet by teaching them to suck candy.

Eating without half masticating the food.

Allowing love of gain so to absorb our minds, as to leave no time to attend to our health.

Following an unhealthy occupation because money can be made by it.

Tempting the appetite with niceties, when the stomach says no!

Contriving to keep in a continual worry about something or nothing.

Retiring at midnight and rising at noon.

Gormandizing between meals.

Giving way to fits of anger.

Neglecting to take proper care of ourselves when a simple disease first appears.

When the heart is sad and a despondency sits at the entrance of the soul, a trifling kindness drives away despair, and makes the path quiet, cheerful and pleasant.

Immoderate pleasures shorten existence more than any remedies can prolong it.

Horticultural Department.

NOTES FROM OUR GARDEN,

At Stonington, Conn.

THE ORANGE WATERMELON.

We see this beautiful favorite of southern gardens is not likely to work its way into cultivation at the north, without a struggle. Wm. Newcomb of Johnsville, N. Y., is out in the Country Gentleman against it. He says " Great care was bestowed in their cultivation, and the specimens tested were very large. In the first place it requires quite a stretch of the imagination to find a resemblance to the orange, from which it derives its name, in its segments. It is true that it separates from the rind, as there was at least two inches space all round the center or core of the melon, with the rind over an inch in thickness. It was good flavored, but stringy, and I consider it an entirely worthless variety, when we can raise with much less care and expense, much larger and better melons of the Green Imperial, Mountain Sprout and Black Spanish varieties."

Mr. Newcomb is one of the best gardeners in Rensselaer County, and his opinion is entitled to grave consideration. There are two things, however, in no wise affecting his skill and judgement, which may have very materially modified the result to which he has come. His location is some one hundred and fifty miles north of us, and near the northern limit where melons can be ripened without forcing. A tropical fruit without acclimation would hardly show all its excellencies there, the first season, if it could be made to on further trial. It is quite possible that the seed with which Mr. Newcomb experimented was not pure. All this class of plants are easily impregnated with their congeners, and this variety is kept pure only with great care. The seed is of a dull white, and if any tincture of brown or black appears, it has been crossed. If his specimens were large they were very likely crossed, for this melon is usually small, six or eight pounds being the usual size.

We have cultivated this melon for two seasons, and have formed a very favorable opinion of it. Last year the seed proved impure, but the melons, though small, were, we thought, the sweetest we ever ate. This year we had seeds direct from Mr. Peabody, the cultivator, who first brought them into notice. The year has been a bad one for all vines, but we had a tolerable crop. The fruit, both in quality and appearance, equaled our expectations. Stripped of its rind, and sent to the table with its segmented core, distinctly marked it as the most beautiful of melons. The proportion of core to the whole mass is larger than in other melons. The flavor is a matter of taste that good judges would differ about. Our specimens are not stringy, and the separation between rind and core is in no place more than one-fourth of an inch, while at the end the core adheres to the rind, but parts easily. It seemed to us sweeter than the Imperial and Black Spanish, but not quite so sprightly. On the whole, we regard it as a superb dessert fruit.

THE HOOSUNG.

Of all vegetable humbugs, retailed at so much per seed, and hard to be purchased at the price, this is the happiest specimen. We had some seed sent us for trial last spring, and we planted them. The vegetable was represented to be a very delicious kind of a salad in the earlier stages of its growth, and when it sent up its seed stalks, it would give us a vegetable for boiling that would put asparagus to the blush. It was also represented to be far more prolific than asparagus.

It came up well, but showed only long, narrow leaves, having nothing of the tenderness or succulence of good common lettuce. It was not worth gathering. The long, tender shoots appeared like the seed and stalks of any other lettuce, and were about as good for boiling. We had rather have a bunch of asparagus than a bushel of Hoosung. And now, if the vender of this precious Chinese salad asks Hoosung (who sung) at its advent, we have to reply that we did not. Were it named *who cried*, we think purchasers could respond.

DWARF PEARS.

We have this year gathered our first crop of dwarf pears, and have to confess to a change of sentiment in their favor. At first sight a dwarf pear, especially if it have not been subjected to proper cultivation, is an unpromising spectacle. It is so small in comparison with a standard tree, that it seemed poorly worth while for a man who has plenty of room to waste his energies upon it. A single well-grown standard will bear as large a burden of fruit as a half-dozen dwarfs. Why, then, should a man confine himself to such a creature of " small doings " as the dwarf pear?

This is a superficial view of the matter, and one that a few years of good husbandry will modify. We began three years since with a few trees from the nursery, and have added every year more or less to our collection.

THE VIRGALIEU ON THE SEA-BOARD.

Here by the path is a dwarf of this variety, which is said to crack badly near the shore. It has been out in its place three years, has blossomed every spring, but has made wood so rapidly, that no fruit held on until this year. We have just picked thirty well-grown pears from its limbs, without a sign of a crack in any of them, and the tree stands within a stone's-throw of tide-water. Besides maturing this crop, it has made a foot of new wood, and looks in good condition, with plenty of fruit buds for next season. The mode of setting was a large deep hole, a plenty of compost, a bushel of bones, and a few scraps of old iron. It has received careful cultivation since with a top-dressing of manure in the fall. The ground around it has been cultivated with carrots. It was no doubt better for the tree that it did not bear for the first two years. We, of course, feel encouraged to hope for future crops of perfect Virgalieus from this tree, and others which are coming forward.

THE DUCHESS D'ANGOULEME.

We grafted this pear some three years since upon a vigorous stock of the common Portugal quince. It made shoots of six feet in length the first season. It has now a well-formed head, and is full of fruit-buds for another year. This variety grows with great vigor upon the common quince. How it will last and bear fruit, we can not, of course, tell at present.

THE GLOUT MORCEAU AND BEURRE DIEL,

treated in the same way, have done very well, but have not made so much wood, and give no signs of fruit.

VICAR OF WINKFIELD.

Here are three dwarfs of this variety set last fall. They were ten years old when set, were full of fruit buds, and have all borne a few handsome specimens of fruit this season. They have made very little wood, but seem well established, and are full of fruit-buds.

THE LOUISE BONNE D'JERSEY.

Here are a half-dozen trees of this variety, set last fall, and six years old. They have nearly all borne fruit of the first quality this season, but have made little wood.

THE BROWN BEURRE

has a very handsome glossy leaf, and if it never matured fruit, would be worth cultivating for its foliage alone. But here are five russet pears of good size, and perfectly smooth, upon a little tree not three feet high. The quality of the fruit we have not yet tested.

THE LAWRENCE

has fulfilled all its promises, bearing abundantly fair fruit of the first quality. We have some thirty varieties in all, and have succeeded in making everything grow but the Flemish Beauty and the Bloodgood. These, from some peculiarity of soil or of treatment, have not been made to thrive.

On the whole, we are well satisfied that the cultivation of the dwarf pear is yet in its infancy in this country. It can be grown with entire success, and one can begin to reap the fruits of his labor within three years of the commencement of his operations. These trees are well adapted to the garden, they can be set within ten feet of each other, and we have little doubt that an acre set with dwarfs will give larger returns than if set with standards. There is almost an unlimited market for this fruit in all our large cities at high prices. Here is an inviting field open for the enterprise of fruit-growers.

Private gardens, of course, will be more and more stocked with this delicious fruit, and our nurserymen will be kept busy in supplying the increasing wants of their customers. Plant and cultivate thoroughly, and success is certain.

PEARS FOR VICINITY OF PHILADELPHIA.—Mr. Edgar Saunders, residing near Philadelphia, who is an experienced fruit raiser says that " In a plantation of sixty trees I would select as follows: *Summer*—2 Madeline, 2 Beurre Giffard, 1 Bloodgood, 4 Bartlett, 2 Rostiezer. *Autumn*—3 White Doyenne, 2 Seckel, 6 Louise Bonne de Jersey, 6 Belle Lucrative, 6 Duchess d'Angouleme, 2 Beurre d'Anjou. *Winter*—4 Vicar of Winkfield, 3

Glout Morceau, 3 Beurre d'Aremberg, 6 Easter Beurre, 6 Winter Nelis, 2 Triomphe d'Jodigue."

AN AMATEUR'S FIRST APPLE.

The first meal in a newly organized family, is an event always recalled with the liveliest pleasure by the heads of the household. No feast in after life, however gorgeous, can dim the splendor of that snowy cloth, spread for the first time upon the new table; or surpass the exquisite relish of the bread first broken in a man's own house. His first achievements in fruit growing are another marked day in his calendar, and the first sample of fruit is only less admired than the first love he installed in his home, and for whom fruit growing became an object. So we thought as we plucked our first apple, and put it upon the shelf to ripen. It will be a great day when the dainty juices under that yellow skin are discussed. We have watched it from the blossom to its perfect development, have noticed its swelling and its change of hue, from green to the rich yellow which indicates ripeness; yea, we have watched it from the foundation of that little world on which it grew, and elaborated its manifold cells, stored them with juices, and clothed them with that beautiful skin. We set the tree with our own hands, put in the bones and compost, and trenched and manured for six feet on every side.

"Shall we discuss that Porter apple this evening my dear?"

"Will a man eat his idols? I fear you will be out of employment when it is gone."

"Nonsense, my dear, please bring the fruit knife and a plate, and while you are up, reach me Cole, and let us see what he says of this Massachusetts apple."

We are indebted to a minister for its propagation, Rev. S. Porter, Sherburne, Mass. It is now the principal September apple in the Boston market, where thousands of bushels are disposed of every year. What a great work a man does for his race, who discovers and sends out to the world a fine fruit. He adds millions of dollars to the material wealth. It is a permanent investment of a large fortune, on which all may draw at pleasure, and which no one can ever dissipate. How many homes has this discovery at the parsonage in Sherburne, blessed with its smiles! How many desserts has it graced with its cheerful presence! In how many fairs of State and County, has it shone, as a chief attraction among the products of the orchard. How many trees, to-day, among the homesteads of New-England, are burdened with the yellow fruit!

"Please hand the measuring tape."

"Will you not have the scales also, that the length, breadth, hight, depth, and ponderosity of that wonderful apple may be made out?"

"Nine and one-half inches in its lesser circumference, ten in its greater," soliloquized the amateur, "I thought there was more difference."

The weighing was omitted as an unnecessary preliminary to the discussion, which resulted in a unanimous approval of the Porter, as the *best* the orchard had ever produced.

THE BEST SEASON FOR TRANSPLANTING TREES, SHRUBS, ETC.

Subscriber.—Which season do you prefer, spring or autumn, for transplanting trees? You have had some experience in this matter, and as I find my neighbors differ much in their opinions, I am anxious to have your advice.

Editor.—It is true there are various opinions upon this matter. Many men, indeed a greater portion of those who give such advice, sometimes rather dogmatically, never planted more than a dozen trees, and those not more than once or twice in their lives—when, perhaps, making their garden around their dwelling—and as they, of course, chose the season they thought the best, whether autumn or spring, they advise all to do as they did. Their evidence is *ex parte;* for they never took hold of the thing experimentally—planting fall and spring for a series of successive years; the only way to test such a question.

Sub.—So I should think; but I find, too, people not only differ as regards the general season of planting, but as regards the kinds of trees suited to the season.

Ed.—Yes. I am aware of that: one cultivator states that he prefers the spring for all kinds of trees; another, that he prefers the fall; a third prefers the fall for everything except peaches; and others would set out everything in the autumn except *stone* fruit.

Sub.—True; and it is for this very reason that there are so many opinions that I wish to know which season you prefer, and, if not too much trouble, to give the reasons that have guided you in your choice.

Ed.—Willingly. It is a rule we have always adopted in our horticultural operations, never to do anything unless it can be justified upon some *principle.* This hap-hazard kind of gardening—doing what others have done before us—or following the advice of every writer who gives his year's experience to the public, is what we never practice, unless accounted for on good and sound reasons.

Sub.—I have not read your Magazine without learning that long ago, and therefore ask the question in regard to transplanting trees; for, beyond the mere *ipse dixit* of the many that the fall or the spring is best because *it is,* I have been unable to learn why one season is better than the other, or why both are not good alike.

Ed.—You will bear in mind that winter often leaves the ground in such a wet and sodden state that transplanting can not be well done for some days, and frequently a fortnight is as good as lost. While in the autumn the ground is dry, loose, and friable, and the operation of transplanting can be done in half the time—and infinitely better too—than it can in the spring.

Sub.—True enough. This condition of the soil in autumn never occurred to me; its wet state has always kept back my work in spring. Then I understand you to say you would plant both fall and spring.

Ed.—Yes, both.

Sub.—But you do not mean to say you have no preference of one over the other?

Ed.—Certainly not. You have not heard me through. My object is to show that if autumn planting is no better than spring, or even not as good, it is necessary that a good deal of it must be done then where large quantities are to be set out. I decidedly prefer the autumn for transplanting all hardy trees of any size.

Sub.—Go on.

Ed.—Autumn planting is better than spring for the following reasons:

1st. The time is longer than the spring. 2nd. The ground is in better condition. 3d. The trees are then in the most dormant state. 4th. The roots, where cut, heal better, and are prepared to send out fresh ones even before the frost is out of the ground. 5th. The winter and spring rains settle the earth around the roots. 6th. The trees are well established before warm weather overtakes them.

Sub.—These appear satisfactory reasons, and based on sound principles; but I should be glad to hear you state whether you would transplant in the autumn without reference to soil or locality.

Ed.—Not by any means. There are soils and situations where autumn planting might be injurious; but then these are not likely to occur; for that soil which will not admit of transplanting in the autumn is entirely unfit to grow a tree, at least with expectation of producing fine fruit; and therefore there is little necessity of making any such exception in our rules. We are presuming that the object of every planter of fruit trees is to get good fruit. It can not be done in a soil or situation *too* wet and cold to set the trees out safely in the autumn. It is somewhat different with forest trees; as it is often an object to plant up some low, cold piece of ground, needed for shade or shelter. *In that case* only, the spring would be the preferable season.

Sub.—I appreciate the truth of your remarks, and agree with you that no tree ought to be planted in a soil which can not carry it safely through the winter. But is there no danger of winter killing the shoots or trunk, even in favorable soils? such is the general complaint of spring planters.

Ed.—Not the least: that is, no more than if the tree had not been removed. If the tree is in good health when set out, it will receive no more injury than it would have done standing in the nursery row. We have known severe winters to kill some kinds of young pear trees to the ground; if set out previous to such a hard winter, they might be injured; but we do not think their danger increased by removal.

Sub.—That is just what I wish to learn; your experience extends over many years, and through a series of variable winters, which should enable you to judge correctly of their effects upon transplanted trees, and with this experience you are confident there is no more danger of winter killing than if set out the previous spring?

Ed.—Not any; except, as I before stated, when planted in cold, wet, and unfavorable soils.

Sub.—This point settled, which has been the greatest bug-bear in the way of autumn transplanting, leaves little doubt of its being far the *best season.* Your fourth, fifth, and sixth propositions appear to decide the question. There can be no doubt of the better ability of the trees to send out roots early in the spring, which will enable them to resist June and July drouths, so trying to all transplanted trees.

Ed.—Have you ever carefully noted down the changes in the growth of newly planted trees? If not, do so another year. You will find that a tree set out in April will break freely, and start into growth vigorously; but by the time our early rains are over and dry weather sets in, then they often come to a dead stand—scarcely another shoot will they make all summer. Just at the time the greatest supply of sap is required, the tree is unable to give it, as it has not yet established itself sufficiently to furnish that supply; consequently the growth stops, and in many instances death ensues.

Sub.—Without noting particularly the condition of trees which I have transplanted in the early part of the season, I have lost too many not to be aware that, in June or July, they generally have completed about all the growth they make the first year.

Ed.—Now give the same attention to those you set out in the fall. You will find they will rarely start so early, and generally not so vigorously, as the spring-planted ones. They come along slow, but sure—no faster han the roots are made which have got the start of the shoots—and in July and August will make almost as much wood as an old-established tree. If, again, you look into the subject thoroughly, you will find the roots are at work long before the surface of the soil is loosened from its frosty hold. Just as we see an old tree, after one or two hot days in April or May, break at once into leaf. If, however, the frost was not out, the tree would remain stationary; this shows that there is root action long before we see it indicated by the breaking of the buds.

Sub.—Very reasonable and true. It must weaken the energies of any tree making much wood to attempt to supply the food which a week of June or July weather would extract.

Ed.—Precisely so, and a little observation will convince any one of this.

Sub.—Something has been said in favor of the autumn, that trees make roots after they are set out at this season. Is this so?

Ed.—This question is not one of *doubt*, but of *fact.* Captain Lovett, in an article in our Magazine some years ago, has shown that trees transplanted *early in the autumn* (October) always put out new roots before winter, and tender kinds when protected by a covering of manure or leaves to keep out the frost; the root-making process goes on until mid-winter, and we are inclined to believe *all* winter.

Sub.—My observation, though somewhat mited, has, however, convinced me that the reasons you give in favor of *autumn* transplanting are founded on sound principles, and when understood can not fail to be generally followed.—Hovey's Magazine.

THE CULTIVATION OF LETTUCE.

BY WILLIAM CHORLTON.

The lettuce being so common a vegetable, your readers may think any thing superfluous that may be said respecting such an every-day article, but as we are constantly filling the periodicals with all other departments of gardening affairs to the almost exclusion of kitchen requisites, you will perhaps excuse a little "jog trot" in this way once in a while; and as a cooling, tender, crisp lettuce is so grateful an accompaniment on the table among other things, let us see what can be said respecting its culture and the immediate connections.

The indigenous country of this edible now in its modern form is not positively known, and its earliest history is wrapped in obscurity. Like many other things of a similar character, we enjoy the luxury without being cognizant of the origin, but, thanks to our now more enlightening policy, we can proclaim to the world our progress, and instead of being trammeled by the mystery and exclusiveness of the dark ages, our onward action or new discoveries can be handed down to posterity. It is generally acknowledged that Egypt, the Island of Cos, and the Levant have furnished many of the varieties. All the cultivated kinds are considered to have emanated from *Lactuca sativa*, but the probability is that several species of that genus have each furnished their quota to make up the general aggregate, and, that the particular species named is only a *conglomerated distinction.* This is more likely when we examine the extensive geographical range of the family in a state of nature, and it is most likely that each country where it was anciently cultivated, has had its distinct type. This is partly proved by the difference of hardiness that exists between the different classes, and other peculiarities, even at the present day; and the time has not long gone by when the distinction was much greater, on account of the lesser number of sorts that then existed.

The genus Lactuca, from the Latin word *lac*, from the milky juice with which it abounds, belongs to the very numerous natural order Compositæ, and was arranged by Linnæus in his nineteenth class, Syngenesia, and first order Æqualis; there are aboriginal representations in various parts of the eastern and western hemispheres.

In a normal condition some of the species are poisonous, but as we have the varieties in cultivation, they are cooling and comfortable to the stomach if taken in moderation, notwithstanding which, if eaten to excess, they will produce drowsiness and a lethargic feeling. The dried juice furnishes a mild form of opium, which may be given to advantage in disease, when that made from the poppy could not be administered.

The lettuce is divided into two classes, viz: *Cabbage* and *Cos;* the outside leaves of the former spread out flat on the ground, and the inner ones incurve upwards so as to form a solid head, the inside of which, from the compactness and exclusion of light, become tender and free from bitterness; while the latter is more upright, and requires the leaves to be tied together near the top some two weeks before use. In temperate and cool latitudes some sorts of Cos do well, are of very superior flavor, and grow large, but with us they are not hardy enough to bear the winter, and sprout up for seed too soon in summer, which makes it necessary to adopt the cabbage varieties. The following descriptive list contains some of the best kinds in cultivation.

Hardy Green or *Hammersmith*—Small, close, and solid head, leaves bright green, very hardy, good for winter.

White or *Curled Silesia*—Heads well, leaves whitish yellow, curled and cut on the edges, crisp, and good flavored. Best for summer, as it stands the heat well.

Malta Cabbage or *Drumhead*—Large, close head, leaves whitish green; tender, crisp, and sweet flavored. A fine lettuce for spring and fall use.

Early White Cabbage or *Butter*—Yellowish green, does not head close, but a good sort for forcing.

Loco Foco—Large, green, and like in leaf to Silesia, suitable for winter, being hardy.

Brown Dutch—Close head, leaves brownish green, good flavor, and very hardy for winter.

When fancy leads that way, the *Brown Bath*, and *Paris Cos*, are about the two best of the class. The former is hardy and fine flavored, but the latter will stand the heat of summer better.

The lettuce delights in a mellow and rich soil, and if the best quality be required, the organic parts of the material ought to be well decomposed, consequently good rotted barn-yard manure will not be lost when judiciously applied to this crop, neither will the free use of it, if thoroughly disseminated, be contrary to economy. Good culture is indispensable in the production of the best quality of all kitchen vegetables, and so in this. Work the soil well, dig deep, and break the clods fine with the spade, adding a sufficiency of dung, and our word for it, the extra labor will meet with a corresponding return profit.

With a little foresight and management, this esculent may be had fit for use the year round, and the following few remarks are penned to show how this may be carried out. As the present is about the time to prepare for early winter, we will begin with the crop for that purpose first. About the third week in August, sow the seed in drills a foot apart, and half an inch deep. If the weather be moist no watering will be required; but if dry, a good soaking should be applied a short time previous to sowing. When the young plants have grown five or six leaves they will be ready for transplanting, which may be done in the usual way, about ten inches asunder. As these will be ready for use a little previous to winter, and it is expected they shall supply the early part of that season, it is well to forecast the situation, so that it may be convenient to put box frames over them when severe weather is apprehended; or where there is the advantage of a grapery, the plants may be carefully lifted with the balls of earth and planted therein. This stock, if kept covered from frost, by placing marsh hay or straw inside the frames, or straw mats over them outside, with a lining on the sides, will give a supply up to February. If another sowing be made the first week in September and treated in the same way, excepting that the young plants may be planted when large enough into their winter quarters in the frames, a further supply will be provided to serve through the remainder of the winter. This latter crop may be put so close as six inches apart, which will economise space, and, as wanted, each alternate head may be cut out, which will leave room for those that are left to expand their size. It sometimes so happens in very severe weather, that growth is suspended, and the plants do not progress in consequence, when if a portion be placed in a slight hot-bed the deficiency will be made up in a few days, for there is, perhaps, no other plant which at this particular stage is so much benefitted by a little bottom heat. During the winter, light and air should be admitted on all favorable opportunities, which will not only prevent rotting, but will also assist healthy growth. The next succession ought to be sowed early in January, in a frame that is well protected by linings and mats, or in boxes in a cool green-house and placed near the glass. These will be ready for transplanting into frames by the beginning of March, and will give a further supply until the general spring sowing comes in. So soon as the ground is in good working order, a portion of seed may be sown in a sheltered aspect, and when large enough, the young plants may be put out as described in the first recording of these operations, and at intervals of a month, a still further quantity, according to requirements, which will give, with proper care as to variety as stated above, a supply the whole year, and a reference to the list of varieties will enable any one to select for all purposes.—Horticulturist.

GRAPES IN NEW-YORK.

The New-York market has been unusually well supplied with excellent grapes during the present season. The number of persons in the vicinity of the city who have a few vines about the homestead yielding a smaller or larger surplus of this fruit for sale, has wonderfully multiplied during a year or two past. A gentleman residing in Brooklyn, stated to us the other day that, although living upon a lot 32 by 100 feet, his two children have cultivated a few vines, from which they gather and sell grapes enough to supply themselves with books, pocket money, and most of their clothing. We do not remember any former season when this fruit has been so abundantly offered for sale everywhere throughout the city, not only in the markets and at the confectioners, fruit stores and groceries, but also on every street corner. We introduced them into the regular weekly Prices Current during the past month, where the wholesale price has been quoted at 3c. to 4c. per lb., for ordinary; 5c. to 8c. for medium, and 9c. to 12c. for superior.

But these prices have not referred to those now so well known in this market as "Dr. Underhill's Grapes," for these have been wholesaled readily at 15 cents per lb. Judging from the immense number we have noticed selling every where throughout the city, and from the constant crowd of purchasers at the sales depot, (293 Broadway) we think the Doctor is reaping a golden harvest in return for his patient and long continued experimental efforts to bring the cultivation of this delicious fruit to perfection, at his Croton Point vineyards. Our better half is indebted to Dr. U. for a bountiful basket of Isabellas and Catawbas, and also for fine samples of his justly celebrated "Apple Quince Jelly," all of which she pronounces EXCELLENT, and we fully concur in the opinion.

STEPHEN, &C.

THE morning was dull, and betokened a day
Unsuited to curing and carting of hay;
So Stephen bethought him to take a trip down
And bring this thing and that and the other from town;
And he harnessed the horse and proceeded to go forth
With a pail of pale butter, eggs, berries, &c.

Now it happened that Stephen (&c.) came down
On the day that the show was to enter the town;
And into the village he chanced to come forth
As the "caravan" came into town from the North.
A wonderful collection they purposed to show forth—
Elks, elephants, monkeys, bears, tigers, &c.

And Stephen arrived opportunely, I ween,
For never had Stephen an elephant seen;
So he, with old Sorrel, fetched up by the fence
To see without paying the twenty-five cents;
And soon came the creature, uncouthly and slow forth,
With tusks, and with trunk, blankets, ribbons, &c.

But scared at the sight, or the scent, or the sound,
Old Sorrel turned quickly and shortly around,
And in turning so quickly and shortly about,
The wagon turned over and Stephen turned out!
And into the gutter the berries did flow forth,
Together with Stephen, eggs, butter, &c.

Qoth Stephen aloud, as he rose on his pegs,
"A fig for the berries, &c.—and eggs—
But henceforth I never can say it, of course,
That I've not seen the elephant—nor can the horse."
And back to the homestead old Sorrel did go on,
Leaving wagon, and Stephen, &c., and so on.

KISSING A PIG.—Dr. John C. Bennet, the man who started the first hen show in Boston, and who now lives in Iowa, is writing letters to the Iowa Farmer. In his first he relates the following:

"The first lot of improved hogs which I brought to Iowa were of the famous Mackay stock. The Mackay hogs of the late Daniel Webster were the best of that breed ever imported into America; and Mr. Webster wrote me at Plymouth, from Washington, to go to Marshfield and select from his best, samples to introduce into this State; and I promptly availed myself of his offer. With this stock I passed through Van Buren county on the day of the State election, and some of the 'sovereigns' were rather 'tight,' and they, as well as the sober ones, were attracted to our wagon on seeing hogs, fowls, ducks, geese, Maltese cats, etc., all caged in the same conveyance, and as the pigs were rather extra, one of the 'tight' ones pointed to the cage of the Mackays and asked, 'Where is that pig from?' '*That* pig,' said I, 'Is from Mr. Webster's Marshfield farm.' 'Well,' said he, 'that is about as near as I ever expect to come to old Dan, so I'll have one kiss,' and suiting the action to the words, he took the Makay pig by the ears, drew it to the front slats of the cage and kissed it!"

A FARMERS WIFE—WHICH OF THE TWO?

The benificence of the Creator is manifested in so disposing our tastes, and so adapting these to the varieties with which we are surrounded, as to make life a scene of enjoyment instead of a burden. It might have been that necessary food would have been noisome as it is sometimes to the diseased stomach, had it not have pleased the Creator to have ordered it otherwise. Bread is the staff of life, but butter is given to make it slip down easier, and with a better relish. But it depends something on who makes the butter, whether it answers this pupose. Butter made in Joe Bunker's house needs to be eaten in the dark, then to make it pass well, one or too other senses should be laid aside—while that made by his brother Jonathan may be eaten in the full blaze of noon; you would wish that your neck was as long again, that you might have the pleasurable sensation of swallowing prolonged. Perhaps a bit of history of their better halves will explain the whole matter.

Joe's wife was Sally Sly.—When a small girl she was sly—she would not half wash the mill pail, and it would sour—sly as she kept it. She was sly at school and did not half get her lessons, but would have her books in sight when reciting—but as she grew older she learned that to get well married, she must appear well, and so she bent all her cunning to get a superficial education in everything, from roasting a potatoe to playing the piano. Poor Joe fell in love with her, and love has no eyes, so he married her. But soon after he entered on housekeeping his eye-sight came, and he saw his fix, that it was for better or worse, and he thought it was for all worse. Like a true philosopher, he concluded to endure what he could not avoid or cure, and got along tolerable well, only when he came to her butter, for his mother was a real butter maker. Every time he saw or tasted of Sally's butter he felt the horrors. Her manner of making butter is somewhat as follows:

She thinks it of no consequence whether the milk pail is sweet or sour—sets the milk in a warm room, because it is easier than to go into the cellar, and if some dirt should blow into the pans she thinks every man must eat a peck of dirt, and in no place will it slip down easier than in butter—she lets the cream pots be open; and when she churns forgets the poke; leaves the cream at blood heat that it may come quick. When she takes it out of the churn, she picks out the bodies of all flies and spiders—the legs and wings are so small they can be swallowed. She works out half of the buttermilk and sets it away in a warm place for use. Poor Joe has seen so much of this kind that he declares butter does not agree with his health, and will not taste it.

Yet his wife wonders why he does not try it, and marvels that he does not keep a dairy and make butter for market.

Jonathan was a younger brother than Joe, and he has occasion to eat at his brother's enough to know why he did not eat butter; and he declared he never would marry without knowing what his bread would be buttered with. Following the bent of his fancy, he made several attempts at matrimony, and Julia Jumper almost caught him—for there was always good butter on the table for tea, but he was determined to know who made it. On inquiry she says;

La me! mother makes the butter; I take lessons on the piano.

Well, says Jonathan, I want a wife that takes lessons on the churn—I shall look further.

After several unsuccessful attempts, and just ready to despair, he started in pursuit of stray cattle before breakfast, and wandered through the forest in the next town, and weary and hungry, called at a decent looking house, and asked for some refreshments, which were cordially granted, for the family were what are called Scotch Irish—in religion, Presbyterian, and in hospitality boundless.

Here he found the butter exactly right; though the weather was hot, the butter kept its shape as well as bees-wax. He catechised the old lady about her housewifery, for the bread was as right as the butter. The old lady said her health was feeble—she could do but little and Jenny had the whole management. He made some round-about inquiries concerning Jenny, and heard that she was a hearty blackeyed lass of two and twenty; she has never seen a piano or attended a ball, but new the assembly's catechism, and could sing Old Hundred to a charm, spin flax and darn stockings, and was then gone to town with butter. He lingered, but she was delayed, and when his excuses for staying were exhausted, he started. He could not get the good butter out of his mind, and, how it happened, I know not, he soon found his way there again, and the result of his adventure was, he made a wife of Jane McKearn. And now one lump of his butter is worth more than Joe's wife would make in a month. There's no trouble in going to market—the keepers of the genteel boarding houses in the neighboring villages send and take it at the highest market price.

Now the main difference between these two women arise from the manner of training, though there is no difference in natural disposition. Old Madame Sly never looked on to see that Sally did up her work right, but suffered her to shy off her work as she chose, and though a good housekeeper herself was altogether too indulgent, and like some others thought more of getting Sally well married than of making her fit for a wife—while old Madame McKearn was determined Jenny should be fit for any man's wife, whether she got married or not. Perhaps, there is no more certain criterion by which to judge of a woman's general character for neatness and good housekeeping than by the quality of her butter. Find on the farmer's table a good, solid, properly-salted, well-worked slice of butter, and you need not fear to eat cake or hash, but see a splash of halfworked butter—salt in lumps, and a sprinkling of hair and flies' legs, you may be sure that if you board there very long, death will not be obliged to wait long for you to finish your peck of dirt.

My advice is, to young farmers, to make it a " sine qua non " in a wife, that she makes prime butter, and the young ladies who aspire to be farmer's wives, had much better be imperfect in filagree and music, than be deficient in that most important art of making butter, which smooths not only the sharp corners of crust and crackers, but will smooth asperities of the husband's temper.

THE TRUE GENTLEMAN.

'Tis he who every thought and deed
  By rule of virtue moves;
Whose generous tongue disdains to speak
  The thing his heart disproves.
Who never did a slander forge,
  His neighbor's fame to wound;
Nor hearken to a false report
  By malice whispered round.
Who vice in all its pomp and power
  Can treat with just neglect;
And piety, though clothed in rags,
  Religiously respect.
Who to his plighted words and trust
  Has ever firmly stood;
And, though he promise to his loss.
  He makes his promise good,
Whose soul in usury disdains
  His treasure to employ;
Whom no rewards can ever bribe
  The guiltless to destroy.

A FLORAL LOVE-LETTER.

A late English paper contains a letter purporting to have been written by a young gardener to a lady whom he loved, and with whom he wished to wed. Whether exactly such a letter was actually written, and sent by the gardener, we have not the means of knowing, nor is it of much consequence. The letter is an ingenious one, by whatever means it came to see the light. It reads thus:

My Rose, Mary:—As you are the *pink* of perfection and the *blossom* of May, I wish to tell you that my *heart's ease* has been torn up by the *roots*, and the *peas* of my *holm* entirely destroyed, since I began to *pine* after *yew*. My name is William *Budd*. At first I was poor, but by *shooting* in the spring, and raising a *carnation* fast, I obtained a *celery*, and by a little *cabbaging*, &c., I *rose* to be master (though something like a *creeper*) of the whole *garden*. I have now full command of the *stocks* and the *mint*; I can raise *ante-mone* from a *penny-royal* to a *plum*, and what my expenditure *leaves* I put in a *box* for *yew*. If I may as a *coxcomb* speak of myself, I should say that I am the *flower* of manhood, that I am neither a *standard* nor a *dwarf*, a *mushroom* nor a *May pole*. My nose is of a *turnip-reddish* kind, and my locks hang in *clusters* round my *ears*. I am often in the company of *rakes*, and rather fond of *vines* and *shrubs*, which my *elders* reprove me for; as I had better *berry* all this, and say that I have a *Windsor beau* and that I have some *London Pride*, and as I am a *branch* of a good *stock* with a portly *bearing*, I well know when and where to make my *bough*. So *lett-uce* act for ourselves, and fix an early day for *grafting* your fate with mine. I am certain that we should make a very nice *pear*, and never repent, even when we become *sage* by *thyme*. *Yew* would be the *balm* of my life, and I would be the *balsam* of yours, so that people who would call us *green* now, would call us *evergreen* hereafter. And now *sweet peas* be with *yew;* if he who tried it *tares* me from *yew*, I shall become a *melon cauliflower*, and wither away; my tongue will always be a *scarlet runner* in your praise; for I have planted my hope in *yew*, and now I only live for the time when I may hear from your own *tu-lips*, that I am your own *sweet William*, and not your

Weeping Will-o."

One of the Pigs.—A friend of ours was arguing in favor of buying large pigs, in the spring, declaring it much better than to buy small ones, as they would eat but little more. A neighbor differed from him in opinion, whereupon he told a story which took down his opponent, and all hearers decided that small pigs eat some. Said he, " Last spring I bought a small pig from a drover, and he was good for eating, but would not grow much. He got so, after a week or two, that he would eat a large bucket full of dough, and after he had swallowed it all, I picked up the pig, and put him in the same bucket, I had fed him from, and the *little scalliwag didn't fill it half full!*—Lynn News.

Tit for Tat.—The slattern always makes a poor cook. The woman who don't dress herself, has never yet succeeded in dressing a beefsteak properly. Young men who contemplate marriage will please notice.—Ex.

The man who neglects his personal appearance whose barn, wagon, harness, garden, &c., are always in a "don't care" style, will never thrive in his business. Young women who contemplate marriage will please notice.

Fortune Knocks Once at Every One's Door.—Fortune, it is said, knocks once at every man's door. It is from the very reason, perhaps, of her knocking only once, that so very few people allow her to come in. The fact is, they mistake her for a tradesman, or a dun, or a begging letter writer, or the income-tax gatherer. If fortune is a real lady (and she is rich enough to be one), then, plague take her, why doesn't she come without a double knock?—Punch.

Stock Raiser's Arithmetic.—Three calves cost as follows: No. 1 cost $1; No. 2, $10; No. 3, $25. Each animal during four years eats 5 tuns of hay, at which time No. 1 sells for $40; No. 2 for $75; and No. 3 for $130, Which calf is the *cheapest?*

To one who said, "I do not believe there is an honest man in the world," another replied, "It is impossible that one man should know all the world, but quite possible that one may know himself."

A STORY FOR FARMERS BOYS.

There was a farmer who had a large field of corn; he plowed it and planted the corn, and harrowed and weeded it with great care, and on his field he depended for the chief support of his family. But after he had worked hard, he saw the corn begin to wither and droop for rain, and he began to have fears for his crop. He felt very sad, and went every day to look at his corn, and see if there was any hope of rain.

One day as he stood looking at the sky, and almost in despair, two little rain drops up in the clouds over his land saw him, and one said to the other:

"Look at that farmer; I feel sorry for him; he had taken so much pains with his field of corn, and now it is all drying up; I wish I could do him some good."

"Yes," said the other, "but you are only a little rain drop, what can you do? You can't even wet one hillock."

"Well," said the first, "to be sure I can't do much, but I can cheer the farmer a little at any rate, and I am resolved to do my best.—I'll try. I'll go to the field to show my good will if I can do no more; and so here I go. And down went the rain drop—one came pat on the farmer's nose, and one fell on a stock of corn. "Dear me," said the farmer, putting his finger to his nose, "what's that? A rain drop! Where did that come from? I do believe we shall have a shower."

The first rain drop had no sooner started for the field, than the second one said:

"Well, if you are going, I believe I will go too; here I come." And down dropped the rain drop on another stalk.

By this time a great many rain drops had come together to hear what their companions were talking about, and when they saw them going to cheer the farmer and water the corn, one said—"If you are going on such a good errand, I'll go too," and down he came.—"And I," said another, "and I," "and I," and so on till a whole shower came, and the corn was watered, and it grew and ripened all because the first little rain drop determined to do *what it could*.

Never be discouraged, children because you can't do *much*. Do *what you can*—angels can do no more.

Almost daily we have occasion to prove the comfort and pleasantness of the steamboat route between New-York and Flushing, as we gather up our exchange papers and portable writing apparatus, and go on board the staunch and commodious little steamer Enoch Dean, Wm. Reynolds, Captain; and enjoy a pleasant sail in company with that capable and gentlemanly clerk, and superintendant of the route, Mr. W. W. Kingsly. The Enoch Dean, has recently been fitted up with apparatus for warming the cabins with steam, and otherwise remodeled, so that even a winter's sail in her is almost as comfortable as sitting by one's own fireside.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

New-York, Oct. 24, 1855.

The past month has been characterized by an unusual—an almost unexampled—excitement in the Flour and Grain markets. This resulted chiefly from an unexpected report of a large deficiency in the wheat crop of France, part of Germany, and Great Britain. This news, received here by the arrival of the Pacific Oct. 3, together with large foreign orders for American breadstuffs, awakened a wild spirit of speculation, and the sales of wheat and flour amounted to an equivalent of over a million bushels of wheat during three days—Oct. 6th to 9th inclusive. Flour went up fully $1 per bbl., and the better grades of wheat advanced 20 to 30c. per bushel.

On the 11th inst. the heaviest purchasers on foreign account withdrew from the market, the excitement subsided, and a considerable degree of quiet has since prevailed. Prices have receded somewhat from the highest point, but still remain higher than at the time of our last monthly summary.

We quote Flour—Ordinary State, Mixed Western, and Common to Good Ohio, at $8 50a$8 75, against $7 50a$7 75 one month since; Favorite and Extra State $8 62a8 75, against $7 87a8 12; Extra Genesee $9 50a11, against $8a10 50. Other brands have varied in a similar ratio.

Wheat—Ordinary to choice Canada White, we quote at $2 05a2 16 per bu., against $2 03a$2 08 on Sept. 25th; Western Red, $1 85 a$1 95, against $1 70a1 90. Rye now stands at $1 25a1 26 per bu., against $1 35a1 36. Oats, Western, 46c.a50c., against 40c.a43c. Corn, Western Mixed, 91c.a93c., against 87 a88c. per bu.

Cotton has fallen somewhat, and compares with last month, according to quality and origin, thus:

	Sept. 25.	October 25.
Ordinary	9c.	8⅛c.
Middling	10⅛a10⅝	7½a 9¾
Middling Fair	10¾a11½	9¾a10¼
Fair	11 a12¼	10¼a11

Rice, a very little advance.

Hay, Potatoes, and other articles of ordinary farm produce, have changed very little.

Beef cattle have varied considerable, with a present downward tendency, owing to the great growth of rich pasture still everywhere abounding. Pork has continued to go upward somewhat, and stands very high. As there is a large amount of Corn, and a good prospect for full prices, the probability is that Pork will be one of the most profitable farm products of the present autumn, though our private commercial advices from Europe, predict a considerable decline at no distant day.

Those who followed our advice and have pushed forward their wheat to market this fall, have received and are still receiving very good prices. The highest point appears to have been reached and passed, though we can hardly predict what temporary effect may yet be produced by speculation, and by the foreign deficiency. As European consumers are not in a sufficiently prosperous condition to buy large amounts of our wheat and flour at the present rates, it is very probable that prices will decline somewhat further, but that there will still be a sufficient demand to keep up a fair medium price for wheat and flour during the year. This is the more probable, as the recent high rates have called forth large amounts from the country, so that there will not be so large a portion kept back in the country till spring as it was at one time feared there would be. The great deficiency abroad coming simultaneously with our unusual large wheat crops, is doing much to enrich the farmers of this country. They have scarcely ever been in a more prosperous condition than now. Still a word of caution is needed. To retain the present flourishing position, too large expectations must not be suffered to induce a wild spirit of speculation. Let every one avoid getting into debt, and provide well for the future by increased and thorough cultivation. Though we have here peace and plenty, the rest of the world is in a state of confusion. Financial revulsion and distress, looms up darkly against the eastern horizon, and we know not how soon it may react upon us. Bankruptcy stares England and France in the face. They hold large amounts of Railroad bonds and shares, and other stocks, as debts against us, which their necessities may soon compel them to return to be canceled with gold. Some are already predicting that a great financial crisis will ere long be experienced in this country. If we avoid further indebtedness, keep out of contention at home and wars or entangling alliances abroad, and continue to husband and increase our present resources by large additions to our productions, which constitute the real wealth of the country, we may look for continued prosperity.

The Weather.—During the first two weeks of last month, was unusually fine. There has been just rain enough to keep the soil in fine working order, while beautiful clear sunshine days have generally prevailed. Since the 20th there has been considerable rain. To-day the rain is coming down in torrents, with no appearance of soon holding up.

The grass is still growing in the fields, and the forests yet retain the living green of summer, where usually at this date we have seen only the sere and withered leaves of autumn. We think there is more pasture in the fields, and more green foliage upon the trees than there was two weeks earlier last season. But winter must soon be upon us, and it is well to provide for its worst features.

Always be Polite.—An elderly lady passing down a busy street in New-Haven, was overtaken by a sudden shower of rain. She was some distance from any acquaintance, and had no umbrella. She was deliberating what to do, when a pleasant voice beside her said, "Will you take my umbrella, madam?" The speaker was a boy, perhaps ten years old. "Thank you," said the lady, "I am afraid you will get wet." "Never mind me, ma'am, I am a boy, and you are a lady." "But perhaps you will accompany me to a friend's not far off, and then I should not find it necessary to rob you." The boy did so, received the thanks of the lady, and departed.

Two years rolled by, the lady often related the circumstance, as often wondering what had become of her gentlemanly little friend, but little thinking ever to see him again. In the dull season last winter this boy was thrown out of employment, and the circumstances coming to the knowledge of this lady, she gave him a good home till March, when she introduced him to a good situation. Verily kindness seldom goes unrequited, even in this world.—*Child's Paper*

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

Advertisements will be displayed in CAPITALS and leaded over as many lines space as are paid for.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

Advertisements amounting to $5—five per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $10—ten per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $20—twenty per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $40—thirty per cent discount.

By the column or half column, without further discount, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

Advertisements with cuts occupying the width of two columns, will be charged double these rates.

THOROUGH-BRED NORTH DEVON AND SHORT HORN CATTLE FOR SALE.

The subscribers now offer for sale five thorough-bred Devon Cows, two yearling Heifers, two yearling Bulls, and four Bull and Heifer Calves.

Also, one Short Horn Bull, 12 months old, from a prize Cow and Bull, and three Short Horn Bull Calves.

For Pedigrees of the above, reference can be had to the Catalogues of the subscriber, which will be forwarded by mail on application.

We have also for sale a few Long-wooled New Oxfordshire SHEEP, consisting of yearling Ewes and Bucks and Buck Lambs.

WM. L. COWLES & SON,
Farmington, Ct.
106—8n1242

A DESIRABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE FOR SALE—Situated in the beautiful village of Wallingford, Ct. The Real Estate consists of seventy acres of fine land, suitably portioned into grazing, tillable and wood land. A large quantity of fruit trees, such as apples, pears, and plums, are in bearing condition on the place. The land is so situated that the owner can stand near his house and take a full view of his whole farm. On the premises is a substantial, modern built dwelling house, and spacious out-buildings. Connected with the premises is a reservoir of water, which virtually supplies the barns and house, and is capable of being carried to every room in the dwelling. The water from this natural reservoir might be easily diverted so as to form large fish-ponds and beautiful fountains. The premises are situated half a mile from the center of the town, and about that distance from the Railroad, which connects New-York with Boston.

The location is eminently adapted to any person who wishes to enjoy life in the country and at the same time be accessible to the large cities. For particulars, inquire of ELIJAH WILLIAMS, on the premises, or of Messrs. ALLEN & CO., No. 189 Water-st., New-York. 106—8n1239

STEAM PLOWING ENGINE!—The subscriber proposes to build an Engine of sufficient strength and power to break up new land, whenever he may meet with a capitalist who will advance $500, under bond to share equally the benefits of a Patent.

G. W. HOWARD,
138 Atlantic-st., Brooklyn, N. Y.
106—7n1241

A CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY!—Profitable and honorable employment.—The subscriber is desirous of having an agent in each county and town of the Union. A capital of from 5 to $10 only will be required, and anything like an efficient, energetic man can make from three to five dollars per day; some of the Agents are realizing twice that sum. Every information will be given by addressing, with a stamp to pay return letter,

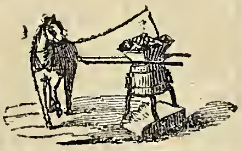
WM. A. KINSLER,
Box 1228 Philadelphia, Pa., Post Office.
—106n1240

JUST PUBLISHED.—WELL'S NEW MAP of the CRIMEA, SEA OF AZOFF and EUROPE, combined with a PANORAMIC VIEW of North and South SEVASTOPOL, showing the present position of the contending armies: By an artist eight months in the Crimea. The whole making a superb sheet 30 by 33 inches, printed on fine, heavy paper, finely colored. Price 25 cents. Agents will find this the best selling map that has been published. Address

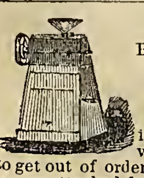
O. F. PARSONS, Publisher,
No. 140 Nassau-st., N. Y.

Papers giving this one insertion will receive a copy.

THE LITTLE GIANT



CORN and COB CRUSHER, to work with one or more horses, the best machine in use for this purpose. For sale, of various sizes and prices, by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.



THE NIMBLE GIANT,

Being one of the latest improved iron GRAIN MILLS for grinding corn, oats, &c.

This machine works with great rapidity with two horses, or when driven by water or steam. It is simple, not liable to get out of order, and durable. Price, $55, with two sieves attached for separating the bran and coarse meal; and with cast steel cob-breaking attachment, for making cob meal, $65. Warranted to give perfect satisfaction, or the purchase money returned.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT, Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.
95—120n1212

STATE OF NEW-YORK, SECRETARY'S OFFICE, ALBANY, August 25, 1855.—To the Sheriff of the County of New-York: Sir—Notice is hereby given, that at the General Election to be held in this State on the TUESDAY succeeding the first Monday of November next, the following Officers are to be elected, to wit:

A Secretary of State in the place of Elias W. Leavenworth;
A Comptroller in the place of James M. Cook;
An Attorney-General in the place of Ogden Hoffman;
A State Engineer and Surveyor in the place of John T. Clark;
A State Treasurer in the place of Elbridge G. Spaulding;
A Canal Commissioner in the place of Frederick Follet;
An Inspector of State Prisons in the place of Darius Clark;
A Judge of the Court of Appeals in the place of Addison Gardiner;

All whose terms of service will expire on the last day of December next.

Also, a Judge of the Court of Appeals, in the place of Charles H. Ruggles, resigned.

Also, a Justice of the Supreme Court for the First Judicial District, in the place of Edward P. Cowles, whose term of office will expire on the last day of December next.

Also, a Senator for the Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Senate Districts, in the place of Thomas J. Barr, Thomas R. Whitney, Mark Spencer and Erastus Brooks, whose term of office will expire on the last day of December next.

COUNTY OFFICERS ALSO TO BE ELECTED FOR SAID COUNTY:

Sixteen Members of the Assembly;
A Sheriff in the place of John Orser;
A County Clerk in the place of Richard B. Connolly;
Four Coroners in the place of Robert Gamble, Joseph Hilton, Hieronymus N. Wilhelm and Wm. O'Donnell;
A Comptroller in the place of Azariah C. Flagg;
A Street Commissioner in the place of James Furey;
A Commissioner of Repairs and Supplies in place of Bartholomew B. Purdy.
Two Governors of the Alms-House in place of Patrick Henry and John J. Herrick;
A City Inspector in the place of Thomas K. Downing;
A Counsel to the Corporation in the place of Robert J. Dillon;
Two Justices of the Superior Court in the place of William W. Campbell and Murray Hoffman;
A Justice of the Marine Court in the place of Charles E. Birdsall;
A Police Justice for the Sixth Judicial District in the place of George W. Pearcey;
A Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Place of Lewis B. Woodruff.

Yours, respectfully,
E. W. LEAVENWORTH,
Secretary of State.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, NEW-YORK,
August 28, 1855.

The above is published pursuant to the notice of the Secretary of State and the requirements of the statute in such cases made and provided.

JOHN ORSER,
Sheriff of the City and County of New-York.

All the public newspapers in the county will publish the above once in each week until the election, and then hand in their bills for advertising the same, so that they may be laid before the Board of Supervisors, and passed for payment.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,
(QUEENS PATENT,)

THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—136n1190eow

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM LAWTON, No. 54 Wall-st., New-York
83-108n1182

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS is requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the sinks and privies of New-York city, by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called

TAFEU,

from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal.

From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240 lbs., or bags of 125 lbs. Price $35 per tun, or 1¾ cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York.

For further particulars address

THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POUDRETTE, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price $1.50 per bbl. for any quantity over 7 bbls. 99—121n1152

SHORT HORNS.—The subscribers offer for sale a few Bull and Heifer Calves, the get of ASTORIA, LORD, VANE TEMPEST 2d, imported 3d DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, and imported EARL VANE. Catalogues may be had from J. C. Jackson, Esq., No. 111 Water-st., N. Y., or the subscribers, at Elizabethtown, New-Jersey.

B. & C. S. HAINES.

BAGS.—NOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York,

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED FLOUR, SALT GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.

Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city.

Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS.

☞ We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day. 97—109n1214

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
ALLEN'S do. do.
BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

THRESHERS—
ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
EMERY'S overshot.
EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, $40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at $6 to $25, and Burr-Stone at $50 to $250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes,
Spades,
Cultivators,
Picks,
Wheelbarrows,
Road-Scrapers,
Shovels,
Harrows,
Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills,
Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers,
Shingle Machines,
Apple Parers,
Saw Machines,
Scales,
Rakes,
Cotton Gins,
Gin Gear.
Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks,
Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

PEAH TREES FOR SALE.—10,000 first class Peach Trees, very thrifty and healthy, best market varieties, for sale low, in quantities to suit purchasers.

The superiority of northern New-Jersey Peaches is so well known as to need no other recommendation.

ALSO:

Mazzard Cherry pits, by the bushel or quart, preserved in the very best manner, and not allowed to become dry and worthless

ALSO:

Orange Quince Seed.—A very fine lot of this seed will be ready for delivery in November, fresh and pure.

WM. DAY,
Morristown, N. J.
204—107n1231

CIDER MILLS—Of the best and latest improvements, occupying a space less than four feet square, and capable of grinding the apples and pressing several barrels of Cider per day with only two hands. For sale by

R. L ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.—The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112

He would also sell a few imported Ewes.

SAMUEL THORNE,
"Thornedale," Washington Hollow,
Dutchess Co., N. Y.
100tfn1219

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

INDEX.

Aftermath, or second hay crop.... 35
Agriculture and the government.... 28
" principles of chemistry.... 32
" " of practical.... 32
Agricultural library, a cheap.... 25
" Exhibitions.... 28
Always be polite.... 46
Apple, an amateur's first.... 42
Bear grass.... 39
Canada thistle.... 34
Cattle breeding.... 33
" cheat in stock.... 27
" Prince George of Cambridge.... 33
Cattle's horns, shaping.... 37
Colds.... 38
Cranberry cultivation.... 39
Cultivation, economic.... 35
Curiosity, a.... 28
Currants, a chapter on.... 31
Draining, what it did.... 30
Farm and Garden of Mr. Amos Briggs.... 25
" true value of a.... 36
Farmer's boys, a story for.... 46
" future, the.... 36
" wife, which of the two?.... 44
Fortune knocks once.... 45
Garden, notes from our.... 41
Garden seeds, pure.... 27
Gentleman, the true.... 45
Grapes in New-York.... 44
Guano sprinkler.... 27
Household management, hints on.... 37
Illinois agricultural products.... 29
Illustrated Annual Register, &c.... 32
Inside view of slavery.... 32
Johnson, Jas. W. F., death of.... 27
Kissing a pig.... 44
Lettuce, cultivation of.... 43
Love-letter, a floral.... 45
Manure-yard, one way to construct.... 40
Meats, cooking.... 37
Meadows, improving, &c.... 26
Muck beds, hunt up the.... 27
Nobleman and the cow-boy.... 38
October issue, our.... 28
Oxen vs. horses.... 36
Paint, how to clean.... 37
Pea, produce of a single.... 29
" the Oregon.... 29
Peas and potatoes for hogs.... 36
Pears for vicinity of Philadelphia.... 41
Personal habits, hints on.... 32
Peppermint in Michigan.... 40
Pickle for hams.... 28
Pigs, one of the.... 45
Planter's victim, the.... 32
Popular definitions.... 38
Pork packing, a hint on.... 28
Potatoes, keeping sweet.... 39
Preserving Pippins.... 35
Quick work.... 37
Review of markets, &c.... 46
Retort, a successful.... 38
Silverware, washing.... 26
Stephen, &c.... 44
Stock raiser's arithmatic.... 45
Supherphosphate, manufacture of.... 37
Systematic, be.... 37
Tit for tat.... 45
Trees, best season for transplanting.... 42
Waterloo correspondence.... 29
Ways of committing suicide.... 40
Weeds, how to plow under.... 37
Wethersfield in danger.... 27

SHORT HORNS.—Short Horned Cows, Heifers and Bulls for sale. Address

JAMES W. WILKIN,
Wilkin's Villa, (near Montgomery,)
Orange County, N. Y.

105-110n1233

ANDRE LEROY'S NURSERIES, AT ANGERS, FRANCE.

The undersigned begs leave to inform his numerous friends and customers that he is now ready to execute all orders for Fruit, Forest and Oreamental Trees, Evergreen Shrubs, Stocks, &c. His collection is particularly fine this year for all kinds of Trees, &c., except Quince Stocks, the crop of which has again failed.

The Catalogue for 1855 is ready for distribution, and all those who wish to get a copy can obtain one, free of charge, by addressing our agent in New-York, Mr. F. A. BRUGUIERE, 138 Pearl-st., successor to our former agent and friend, Mr. Ed. Bossange, who has retired from business. Orders should be sent at once to secure a complete assortment. All required information to import Trees, &c., will be found on the first page of our Catalogue.

ANDRE LEROY, Angers.
F. A. BRUGUIERE, Sole Agent,
138 Pearl-st., New-York.

105-107n1234

BOOKS FOR THE FARMERS.
ALL SENT FREE OF POSTAGE,
on receipt of the price annexed.

Furnished by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

I. The Cow, Dairy Husbandry, and Cattle Breeding. Price 25 cents.
II. Every Lady her own Flower Gardener. Price 25 cents.
III. The American Kitchen Gardener. Price 25 cents.
IV. The American Rose Culturer. Price 25 cents.
V. Prize Essay on Manures. By S. L. Dana. Price 25 cents.
VI. Skinner's Elements of Agriculture. Price 25 cents.
VII. The Pests of the Farm, with Directions for Extirpation. Price 25 cents.
VIII. Horses—their Varieties, Breeding, Management, &c. Price 25 cents.
IX. The Hive and Honey Bee—their Diseases and Remedies. Price 25 cents.
X. The Hog—its Diseases and Management. Price 25 cents.
XI. The American Bird Fancier—Breeding, Raising, &c., &c Price 25 cents.
XII. Domestic Fowl and Ornamental Poultry. Price 25 cents.
XIII. Chemistry made Easy for the Use of Farmers. Price 25 cents.
XIV. The American Poultry Yard. The cheapest and best book published. Price $1.
XV. The American Field Book of Manures. Embracing all the Fertilizers known, with directions for use. By Browne. Price $1 25.
XVI. Buist's Kitchen Gardener. Price 75 cents.
XVII. Stockhart's Chemical Field Lectures. Price $1.
XVIII. Wilson on the cultivation of Flax. Price 25 cents.
XIX. The Farmer's Cyclopedia. By Blake. Price $1 25.
XX. Allen's Rural Architecture. Price $1 25.
XXI. Phelps's Bee Keeper's Chart. Illustrated. Price 25 cents.
XXII. Johnston's Lectures on Practical Agriculture. Price, 75 cents.
XXIII. Johnson's Agricultural Chemistry. Price $1 25.
XXIV. Johnson's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology. Price $1.
XXV. Randall's sheep Husbandry. Price $1 25.
XXVI. Miner's American Bee-Keeper's Manual. Price $1.
XXVII. Dadd's American Cattle Doctor. Complete. Price $1.
XXVIII. Fessenden's Complete Farmer and Gardener. 1 vol Price $1 25.
XXIX. Allen's Treatise on the Culture of the Grape. Price $1.
XXX. Youatt on the Breeds and Management of Sheep. Price 75 cents.
XXXI. Youatt on the Hog. Complete. Price 60 cents.
XXXII. Youatt and Martin on Cattle. By Stevens. Price $1 25.
XXXIII. The Shepherd's own Book. Edited by Youatt, Skinner and Randall. Price $2.
XXXIV. Stephens's Book of the Farm; or Farmer's Guide. Edited by Skinner. Price $4.
XXXV. Allen's American Farm Book. Price $1.
XXXVI. The American Florists' Guide. Price 75 cents.
XXXVII. The Cottage and Farm Bee-Keeper. Price 50cents.
XXXVIII. Hoare on the Culture of the Grape. Price 50 cents.
XXXIX. Country Dwellings; or the American Architect. Price $6.
XL. Lindley's Guide to the Orchard. Price $1 25.
XLI. Gunn's Domestic Medicine. A book for every married man and woman. Price $3.
XLII. Nash's Progressive Farmer. A book for every boy in the country. Price 50 cents.
XLIII. Allen's Diseases of Domestic Animals. Price 75 cents.
XLIV. Saxton's Rural Hand-books. 2 vols. Price $2 50.
XLV. Beattie's Southern Agriculture. Price $1.
XLVI. Smith's Landscape Gardening. Containing Hints on arranging Parks, Pleasure Grounds, &c. Edited by Lewis F. Allen. Price $1 25.
XLVII. The Farmer's Land Measurer; or Pocket Companion. Price 50 cents.
XLVIII. Buist's American Flower Garden Directory. Price $1 25.
XLIX. The American Fruit Grower's Guide in Orchard and Garden. Being the most complete book on the subject ever published, $1 25.
L. Quinby's Mysteries of Bee-Keeping Explained. Price 1.
LI. Elliott's Fruit Grower's Guide. Price $1 25.
LII. Thomas's Fruit Culturist. Price $1.
LIII. Chorlton's Cold Grapery. Price 50 cents.
LIV. Pardee on the Strawberry. Price 50 cents.
LVI. Norton's Scientific Agriculture—New Edition. Price 75 cents.
LVII. DADD'S MODERN HORSE DOCTOR. Price $1.
LIX. Guinon's Milk Cows. Price 38 cents.
LX. Longstroth on Bees. Price $1 25.
LXI. Book of Caged Birds. Price $1.
LXII. Gray's Text Book of Botany. Price $2.
LXIII. Directions for Use of Guano. Price 25 cents.

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New York, offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf, PEAR, CHERRIES PEACHES, PLUMS and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—6n1237

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.
GREATLY ENLARGED STOCKS.
Prices Reduced for Autumn and Spring Sales.

Sold only in packages of four sizes, as follows:

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
Or at New-Rochelle,
Westchester County, N. Y.

105tfn1235

Publisher's Announcement
FOR THE
FIFTEENTH VOLUME
OF THE
American Agriculturist.
A Leading, Standard Agricultural Journal.
$1 Per Annum—Discount to Clubs.

The AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST will enter upon its Fifteenth Volume, October 1st, 1855, and be promptly issued thereafter on the first day of each month, making a large double quarto annual volume, printed with new and beautiful type, on heavy, extra white magazine paper of a superior fine quality.

Its pages will be devoted exclusively to AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC ARTS, and those matters which relate directly to the cultivation of the soil.

It is designed to embrace such subjects as—Selection of seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various field and garden crops; fruit growing; care, treatment and improvement of all kinds of domestic animals; the construction and embellishment of farm buildings; housing, preserving, and marketing the products of the farm, orchard, garden and dairy; and to the domestic or household labors of the rural home.

It will be *progressive* in its character, having a constant watch for all improvements and new developments; and, at the same time, be sufficiently conservative to avoid and warn its readers against visionary theories, and the dangerous teachings of those who would create or distort scientific theories to subserve their private interests.

The *American Agriculturist* will be entirely independent of all collateral interests. The conducting and controling Editor, having no connection with any business whatever, will take good care that its pages shall be devoted only to such matters as relate directly to the interests of the reader.

It will continue under the CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of Mr. O. JUDD, who will be assisted by the counsels and contributions of those gentlemen who first originated the *Agriculturist*, and have done much to maintain its uniform high character—including Messrs. A. B. ALLEN, LEWIS F. ALLEN, REV. WM. CLIFT, together with several able contributors, whose united labors will serve to fill its pages with matter eminently serviceable to every owner or cultivator of even the smallest plot of ground.

TERMS:

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00
Twenty copies one year	15 00

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS.

Combination of Agricultural and News Journals.

In order to furnish all our subscribers who may desire with early agricultural intelligence, such as full, extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world, we have made arrangements with Messrs. RAYMOND, HARPER & Co., to furnish us with an extra edition of the

NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES,

one of the largest and most comprehensive newspapers in the country. The Agricultural Department of the *Times*, together with its full reports of sales and price of live stock, farm and garden produce, &c., is prepared expressly for that paper by Mr. JUDD, the Conducting Editor of this journal.

The two papers combined will embrace all that could be desired by the cultivator of the soil, wherever he may be located. The Monthly *American Agriculturist* will furnish standard articles of a high and practical character, adapted to the Month and Season in which they appear, and so valuable as to be worth preserving in a convenient form; while the Weekly will give the news of the day, not only agricultural but in every other department. The matter in the two papers will be different, and generally distinct from each other.

Hereafter we shall mail the *American Agriculturist* on the first of each month, and the *Times* on Thursday of each week, on the following liberal terms, which will include the cost of both papers:

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 00
Ten copies of both papers one year	16 00
Twenty copies of both papers one year	30 00

Back numbers of the Monthly *American Agriculturist*, when on hand, will be supplied at 10 cents per number. Back numbers of the *Times* can not be supplied.

Specimen copies always sent free.

All subscriptions or business communications to be addressed to

ALLEN & CO.,
Publishers of American Agriculturist,
No. 189 Water-st., New York.

N. B.—Editorial matters to be addressed,
Editor of American Agriculturist.

PRINTED BY H. O. REYNOLDS, No. 189 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

EDITED BY
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

PUBLISHED BY
ALLEN & Co., 189 Water-st.

VOL. XV.—No. 3.] NEW-YORK, DECEMBER, 1855. [NEW SERIES—No. 107.

A TRIP TO THE MISSISSIPPI.

Through the kind invitations of our old friend Doctor Kinnicutt, Corresponding Secretary of the Illinois State Agricultural Society, and the Illinois Central Railroad Company to pass over their roads through the heart of that great State, we left Buffalo on the evening of the 6th October in the steamer Empire State, one of the strong, spacious, noble boats of the Southern Michigan Railroad, on our passage to Toledo. It is unnecessary to say more to the credit of this road than that, in the person of Mr. Ritchie, their agent at Buffalo, their fine line of boats, and the accommodating officers at each end of their railway route, who manage the road and its running apparatus in most excellent order, the traveling public are always well served and accommodated. Owing to a strong west wind and a tumbling, heavy sea in Lake Eric, we did not reach Toledo until late on Sunday night, where we found capital quarters at the American Hotel. The next day, balmy and mild, we spent in rambling about that thriving young city. It is growing rapidly, has a broad, rich, and as yet, partially cultivated country about it; but being the terminus of several railroads, and the Toledo & Dayton and the Wabash and Erie canals, which extend south and southwest through the rich States of Ohio and Indiana, with the commodious harbor of Maumee Bay lying on its front, Toledo must become a place of great commercial importance. It has now some 15,000 population. Being obliged to take the night train for Chicago, we lost sight of the fine country and thriving towns through which the Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana road passes, much to our regret, and morning rose upon near the head of Lake Michigan, which presented little but barren sand-hills, marshy prairies, and forbidding wastes to our view. Turning northward from the head of the Lake, and pursuing our course along its western shore, which is a low prairie interspersed with sandy oak ridges till within a few miles of Chicago, we coursed along the broad space of open prairie on which that wonder of modern towns is built, and at 8 o'clock arrived at the terminus of the road.

CHICAGO.

Some twenty-five years ago we first heard of Chicago as a *practicable* place. It was at the breaking out of the "Black Hawk war." Gen. Scott, with a detatchment of the American army, had been ordered out to quell the murderous onslaught which that desperate Chief with his more terrible "Prophet," Keokuk, had excited. They spent some days at Buffalo on their passage, out from the seaboard, to collect supplies of various kinds, and some weeks after embarking, we well recollect the terrible visitation which his army had by the cholera, but recovering, how they dispersed the hordes of Indians and laid the country open to its peaceful occupation by the emigrants who now flocked in to occupy the rich lands which lay around and about the western shores of Lake Michigan. Scarcely a steamboat then had visited Chicago. Low, flat, and marshy, with a dull, deep stream extending but a few miles into the prairies back, giving shelter to the occasional schooners that carried the blankets and provisions for the fur-traders located there, it was the point of overland transit to the batteau waters of the Illinois river lying a few miles in its rear. And *now*, Chicago is a bustling, commercial city of 80,000 people! a wonder of modern times—exceeding by far, in the results of its voluntary enterprise, what St. Petersburg, with all the energy and despotism of Peter the Great, and his successors, with the whole Russian nation at their command, could accomplish in twice as many years. Here are immense warehouses and stores, and dwellings of a cost and durability, and in a style of architecture, creditable to any of our Atlantic cities. Innumerable railways find here their termini, and radiate to all points of the compass. Fleets of water craft, both steam and sail, congregate in its waters, making Chicago for all future time one of the greatest of our seats of inland commerce. Here, quartered for a week in the charming society of a private family, hitherto strangers to us, we spent our days as agreeably as if we had made out a programme for ourselves, with the entire hospitality of Chicago for the field on which to spread it.

THE PLACES ROUND ABOUT.

Lying on the edge of a low prairie, spreading several miles north, west and south, with an elevation of only four feet above the Lake, aside from several fine villas and gardens in its immediate vicinity, the wealthy people of the city have begun to appropriate several neighborhoods of the high ground some miles distant for their country residences, which are passed by the railroads. The most desirable of these lands lie along the Lake north toward Milwaukee. Several fine tracts of land, at an elevation of thirty to sixty feet above the water have been appropriated, either in farms, or to be cut up into villa plats by the Chicagans, and extensive improvements are now in progress. We visited some of these, and among the most desirable is that of Jared Gage, Esq., consisting of a fine farm of 130 acres overlooking the Lake, backed and flanked by beautiful woods. On this he has commenced building for a family residence, and has it stocked with the germ of a beautiful herd of Devon and Short Horn cattle, and some Southdown sheep. His brother, Mr. John Gage, has a fine wooded tract adjoining, and both north and south are young villages just partitioned out into commodious lots for building, and on which extensive erections are commenced. They have the good taste, too, to give them the euphonious Indian names of their several localities. At the west, some fifteen miles distant from the city, at Summit, near the Illinois canal, John Wentworth, Esq., of Chicago, has commenced a noble prairie farm of some 1,200 acres, and already stocked it with a fine herd of Short Horn and Devon cattle, Southdown sheep, choice poultry, &c., all under the charge of an accomplished English herdsman and farmer. As the *furor* of money-making becomes somewhat appeased, we may hope that many other of the good people of Chicago will follow the examples so tastefully set before them, and like many of our older cities its vicinity may be embellished by the homes of its retired citizens, surrounded by those delightful rural associations which a cultivated taste and liberal wealth will draw around them.

THE STATE CATTLE SHOW.

This being the third only of the kind in the State of Illinois, and the first at Chicago, the efforts of its officers were generously seconded by the citizens, and the grounds were conveniently and tastefully got up and arranged, about three miles from the heart of the city, on the south branch of the river, with fine trees shading it, and an inlet or two from the stream inclosed, furnishing it with abundant water. It is scarcely worth while in these abounding days of cattle shows to go into a description in detail of the grounds, its erections, or of all the commodities which lay, and stood, and were spread in such abundant profusion over them. Sufficient let it be to say, that the show in all its varieties was a grand one, its accommodations ample, and the hospitality and attentions of the officers unbounded. The brief notice in our last number indicated some of the interesting articles exhibited, and beyond these it was rich in the display of Short Horns, Devons, and grade cattle, a few Cotswold, Southdown, and a grand assortment of Merino sheep, horses, mules, and jacks, and jennies. Fruits were abundant, and like all of western growth, of enormous size, but of lessened flavor on that account, yet beautiful and reliable specimens. There were apples weighing two pounds, Dutches d'Angouleme pears weighing two pounds and two ounces, and osage oranges quite as heavy. Stalks of the osage orange were exhibited of this season's growth, ten feet long, and as large at the butt as a broomstick. By the way, this is becoming a subject of prominent attention with the prairie farmers—and that comprehends pretty much the whole State—for hedging. From present appearances, and the results of their recent trials, we think the experiment will be successful. Hundreds of miles of osage are already planted. Men contract to plant and grow it into a sufficient hedge for a given price per rod or mile. This is the right way. Among the mules exhibited we saw one pair, price $800, beautifully matched fillies, dark brown, which we should feel proud, did we own, to drive before a coach! They were 16½ hands high, and but one year old. Some of the Short Horns were very fine, particularly the herds of Messrs. Brown, Smith, and Dunlap, of Sangamon; and so were the Devons of Col. Capron, formerly of Maryland, and now of Olden, McHenry Co., Ill. The Devons have been but recently introduced here, but in Northern Illinois they will become a favorite stock. There were some beautiful cross bred Short Horn and Devon cows, and a young bull belonging to Mr. Jared Gage, of Chicago, and a pair of fine Short Horn cows of Mr. Fay, of Lake Co., which had recently come from our own State. And there were, besides some other good cattle of these breeds, a throng of creatures *called* by those names, that were *not* so. Still, the people of Illinois are thriving, *learning* people, and will fast fall into the right understanding of what good and true bred cattle are, particularly if they will visit the cattle shows.

One incident pleased us particularly. While in the business office, a bright-eyed little eight-year-old girl came running in, exclaiming, "Pa! I've got the prize!" her little coal-black eyes radiant with joyous excitement. This was addressed to Dr. Kinnicutt, the Secretary, who congratulated his animated little daughter on her success. We turned about and asked the *petite* lady on what article she had so happily won? "Why, for *darning*, sir!" laughed out the child. She had sadly rent her dress in coming to the show, and like a good little housewife, had got a needle and thread and darned it nicely together, and exhibited it in triumph to the appropriate committee, who justly awarded her a prize for it. Let *darning* be a prize to be competed for at all future exhibitions of the kind, thought we. Better to encourage this useful accomplishment than for stitching all the *filagree* work in creation. No telling the household comforts that may grow out of this little prize for darning.

But we must hurry on. The attendance was large—the people all pleased—the show good, and highly creditable to the young State of Illinois. The weather, too, was divine, and the receipts of the Society thirteen thousand dollars! What better could be asked?

FROM CHICAGO WESTWARD.

On the following Monday we took the cars of the Chicago and Galena Railroad for Dunleith, on the east bank of the Mississippi opposite Dubuque in Iowa. For the first three or four miles we passed through the suburbs of the town over the level prairie, and thence on for ten or twelve miles further, till we met the waters of the Des Plaines, a branch of the Fox river running southwardly into the Illinois. Here we met the first standing timber, lying along the stream and covering the slightly elevated sandy and gravelly ridges which every few miles intersperse this broad prairie land. Good farms now began to appear, with sufficient and comfortable buildings. Occasional small streams flowed across our track, and the country became gradually elevated into a gently rolling surface, with none so low but that a little drainage would render it fit for cultivation. The groves were mostly inclosed by fence, and many of them trimmed up and cared for so as to make respectable oak forests in a few years. Elgin, on the Fox river, is a beautiful town, rapidly improving, and well built, with handsome churches, mills, and other manufactories, in the midst of a rich country. The Fox is a fine stream, of perhaps a hundred yards in width, and affording good water power every few miles in its course. The banks of the streams are all well wooded, mostly with white and black oak. Belvidere is another thrifty, beautiful town, on a principal branch of the Rock river, about the size of Elgin, perhaps superior in the amenity of its position, and quite its equal in the style of its buildings. Next among the large towns comes Rockford, a noble town of some 6,000 people, lying on both sides of the Rock river, which we crossed, celebrated for its rich lands and enterprizing farmers. Beyond, some miles, and on the banks of the Picatonica, a confluent of the Rock river, and along the pleasant valley of which we coursed, stands Freeport, a thriving town of less size than Rockford, but promising in growth. At this point the Galena and Chicago road joins the Illinois Central, which comes up from the South, and on that we pursued our way over a rich, and for the most part well cultivated country to

GALENA.

For some twenty miles before coming to Galena the country becomes more undulating, then somewhat broken, more woody, and finally breaks into steep gullies, when we begin to descend gradually into the narrow valley of the Galena, or Fever river, and light upon the busy little city snugly located on its northern bank, and on the sides of its precipitous hills. The road enters the valley on the south or left bank, with its station under the high bluffs which correspond to those on the north. A new town is growing up on this bank also, and many pretty spots among the ravines that stretch away to the south are occupied by pleasant houses, some stores, and mechanic shops. A hundred rods below the station the road crosses the stream into the lower part of Galena proper, and pursues its way down the river. Leaving the cars, we crossed a bridge and took up our lodgings for the night at the DeSoto House, large, commodious, and *one of the best kept hotels we know*. It was now dark—we were tired, and after looking at the newspapers, went to bed and slept soundly. As soon as light, we were up and dressed, and went out to take a look at the place.

Galena is a town *built of necessity*. It is a creation of the immense lead mines in its vicinity. It lies at the head of navigation of the little stream, here about sixty yards wide, three miles above its mouth in the Mississippi, and was commenced about forty years ago for the object of shipping its lead, which is its great business, in boats down the river. The principal street runs along the bottom, near the river, and of commodious width. This is well built, with fine brick and stone stores and dwellings, while immediately in the rear the hill rises precipitously a hundred and fifty to two hundred feet in hight. On the top of this table land, which stretches away, gently undulating for miles into the country, are built many fine and tasteful dwellings. The whole town may have ten thousand people, and has the appearance of very considerable wealth.

Taking the cars at 8 o'clock, we followed down the river a couple of miles, then striking across a low point which marks its confluence, we soon struck the bank of the Mississippi, which we followed eight or ten miles to Dunleith, the northwestern terminus of the Illinois Central road.

DUNLEITH.

This embryo village is the creation of the railway, opposite Dubuque. It lies on a high bank, perhaps twenty feet above the river, secure from inundation, and extending back an average of forty to sixty rods to the base of the high bluffs on the east. The bluffs are perhaps two hundred feet high, precipitous, and filled with quarries of the finest building stone. They are thickly wooded, and present at a distance a picturesque and grand appearance. As the terminus of an important railway, to be met by another on the opposite side of the river, which will in time stretch interminably away to the west, bringing in a tide of travel and commerce, connecting a wide and populous country for a thousand miles east and west, it requires little stretch of imagination to determine its importance.

Hurrying on to the ferry-boat, which with its powerful machinery sent us rapidly over the river, we soon found ourselves comfortably domiciled in the hotel of our old acquaintance, Capt. Kingman, formerly of Buffalo, where both ourselves and our readers will take a rest for the day.

A Golden Harvest.—The Boston Transcript says that the foreign money deposited at the Suffolk Bank on Friday of the week during which the National Agricultural Show was in progress, exceeded by 20 pe cent the deposit of any day since the bank was established.

The deposits of foreign money for that day were $2,059,928!

EXHIBITION OF U. S. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AT BOSTON.

A LESSON TAUGHT.

To the full reports in the Times we have little to add. The arrangements were on a larger scale than at any previous agricultural gathering in this country, and no other exhibition has been as successful, at least in pecuniary results. We have not learned the exact amount of money received for entries and from visitors, but it was between $30,000 and $40,000—enough to meet all expenses, and leave a handsome sum to go to the treasury of the Society, where it was especially needed. We but speak the universal sentiment, when we say that to Col. Marshall P. Wilder belongs a large share of the credit of originating, arranging, and carrying on the various departments of the Exhibition, though his efforts were nobly seconded and aided by a large number of gentlemen in Boston and from elsewhere.

There is one important lesson taught by the course pursued in getting up this Exhibition, which should not be lost. We refer to the liberal outlay of time and money expended in making the arrangements as complete and magnificent as possible; in the offer of large premiums and other inducements to exhibitors; in the publicity given to the enterprise throughout the whole country, &c., &c. "Nothing ventured—nothing gained," is an adage as true as it is trite. Barnum, the most successful of showmen, understands this, and acts upon it.

The managers of our State, County and Town Agricultural Societies will find it not only to their interest, but absolutely essential to success, hereafter to keep this fact before them. A "one-horse" show may have succeeded in past times, while novelty was a strong element of attraction; but something more than novelty will soon be required to draw out a crowd at an Agricultural Exhibition.

There is always a certain amount of expense and labor attendant upon getting up any respectable show of agricultural products. It is the amount expended over and above this, in extra large premiums, in superior arrangements, in attractive show-bills and other means of publicity, that has the main effect in getting up a paying "excitement."

We have in mind two County Agricultural Societies, located near each other, and having nearly equal facilities for a successful exhibition. The managers of one society appropriated $2,000 for expenses and premiums, none of which exceeded $20. Only $50 was appropriated to show-bills and other advertising. The neighboring Society, with only the same amount of funds on hand, appropriated $2,900 for the same purposes. They offered ten premiums of $50 each, with several others of $20 to $40 each, and devoted $200 to posting magnificent show-bill in every public place in the County, which was done in the early part of the summer. The Exhibition was freely advertised in all the local papers, and in many others circulating within the County. The result was, the first Society received from visitors and other sources $1,870; while the receipts of the second were $3,645—the first losing $130, and the second clearing $745.

MORE ABOUT MUCK.

There is no subject, in our opinion, so worthy of the attention of cultivators generally, and especially of those having worn out lands, or those not abounding in vegetable matters, as that of hunting up and using to the best advantage, the stores of vegetable matter abounding more or less upon nearly every farm. Where there are not rich deposits of muck, there are decaying leaves, the washings of meadows, and other sources of organic food for plants. The present season of the year—before the frost entirely forbids such opperations--should be embraced by every one for digging, and heaping up for future use a full supply of these manurial deposits.

In addition to our own articles from time to time, we shall continue to furnish selections on the subject. We give below from the Rural New-Yorker, some hints on the value of muck which though not fully endorsed, are suggestive. That paper says: Some conversation recently had with a farmer friend, on the subject of muck, set us into a reëxamination of chemical theories as to its constituents, manurial value, and mode of action, and what we have gleaned, principally from Dana's 'Muck Manual,' will probably interest him and others. It is a subject on which a great deal has been written, but as yet it is far from exhausted; and the better it is understood the greater will be the importance attached to it. Those who have given muck a fair trial are convinced of its value, which is so readily evident that its use is extending; for in agriculture, as in all else, a good example influences those who look upon it. So farmers are beginning to peer into swamps and pond-holes, and find there something worth looking for and using as an application to *any soil deficient in vegtable matter*. The very nature of muck shows that here it must be serviceable.

Of what is muck composed? Of decayed vegetables--mosses, grass, leaves, and woody matter, pretty thoroughly decomposed.—"Peat," says Dana, "Is the result of that spontaneous change in vegetable matter which ends in *geine*"—a term which, "in an agricultural sense, includes all the decomposed organic matter in the soil. It is highly concentrated vegetable food—not only partly cooked but seasoned." An analysis of specimens from ten different localities in Mass., by Prof. D., gave an average, in 100 parts, of

Soluble geine or organic matter	29.41
Insoluble do.	54.73
Salts and Silicates	15.55

These samples comprise probably a fair average of peat or swamp muck through the country. Dr. C. T. Jackson, from an analysis of twenty samples of peat from different localities in Rhode Island, obtained an average of 72 parts of geine, or organic vegetable matter, and 24 of salts and silicates, in 100 parts, dried at 300°. Muck, even when allowed to drain as dry as it will, contains 73 to 97 per cent of water.

	Weight.	Soluble geine.	Insoluble geine.	Salts of Lime.
Dung,	9,289	128	1,248	92
Muck (1)	9,216	376	673	91
do. (2)	9,216	319	529	81

"The power of producing alkaline action," he adds, "on the insoluble geine, is alone wanting to make peat as good as cow dung. Reviewing the various matters, from whatever source derived, solid or liquid, which are used as manure, all possess one common property, *that of generating ammonia*. The conclusion then of this whole matter is this; the value of all manures depends on salts, giene, and ammonia; and it is directly in proportion to the last; it follows that any substances affording these elements may be substituted for manure."

Muck, then, only needs some addition to make it capable of generating ammonia, to give it great value. Any alkali will do this, and ashes well answer the purpose. "It is only necessary," says Prof. Johnston, "to mix *half-dried* peat with any substance which undergoes rapid spontaneous decomposition —when it will more or less speedily become infected with the same tendency to decay, and will thus be rendered capable of ministering to the growth of cultivated plants." Not only ashes, but any fermenting manure, animal or vegetable, will produce ammonia from the decomposition of the nitrogen which muck always contains. Many processes to which we can not particularly refer in this article, have been successfully employed for the conversion of muck into an active manure—and all depend on the principles already stated.

Benefit is often derived from fresh dug muck, applied at once to the soil. In this case a slow decomposition takes, place, evolving ammonia; and amechanical action also results, by which heavy soils are made more porous and friable, and better able to resist either wet or drouth, and also to receive benefit from atmospheric influences. The conclusion is evidently a safe one, that any one *who can have muck for the digging* on his own farm, will find it for his advantage to apply it to almost any upland soil. Its greatest benefit is found when composted with other decomposing agents—for instance, with an alkali, or mixed with stable manure, or used as an absorbent of the liquid portions of the same, or of the gases' of animal or vegetable matters undergoing spontaneous decomposition—before its application to the soil. Thus treated, a thousand experiments have shown that a fertilizing material equal in value to stable manure, can be produced at much less cost. Surely it is a matter worthy of the practical and earnest attention of our readers, as well as of frequent discussion in our columns.

He that will win the game, must look more upon the mark, than the money; if he hits the one, he takes the other.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

With this number the subscription of several hundreds of our subscribers run out. To such we send printed notices to this effect, noting also the day on which the Weekly Times, will cease to be sent. We trust that no urging or special solicitation is required, to induce all our present readers to renew their subscription. This should be done at an early day that we may know how many of our next edition to print. We begin striking off the inside sheets of each number as early as the 20th of the preceding month.

We have no claim upon our subscribers for any exertions in behalf of the Agriculturist, but it will do us a *special favor*, if all those who are themselves pleased with our efforts, will mention the paper favorably to their neighbors and invite them to give it a trial. We are able to furnish new subscribers, who may so direct, with the three back numbers (including this one) of the present volume.

☞ In making up each number, we carefully read nearly every agricultural paper in this country, and the principal ones published on the other side of the Atlantic. From all these, amounting to many hundreds each month, we endeavor to select and condense all new hints upon the different branches of cultivation, at least all that may be of practical interest to our readers. The American Agriculturist therefore, in addition to furnishing a considerable amount of original information, is, besides, a compendium of most other agricultural journals published.

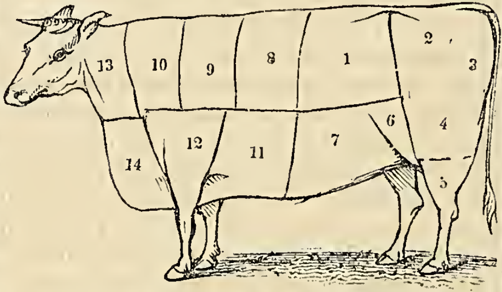
BEEF—CUTTING UP AND RETAILING.

A few weeks since we stated in the Daily Times that the people of this city pay more for the meat they consume than for the flour, and that with all the excitement in the flour markets, the rise of one cent a pound in the price of beef at 44th-st., is quite as important to consumers as the rise of one dollar a barrel in the price of flour at White Hall. We have seen a good deal of figuring on this matter since making the above assertions, and we believe that our statements are found to be accurate.

Any one can make the estimate for his own family as to the relative cost of meat and bread. Calling the wholesale price of flour $11 per bbl, and that of meat 11c. per lb., one dollar per bbl. rise is equal to just the same per cent as one cent per lb. advance on meat. The latter is more important in proportion to the total cost of the meat consumed.

We have frequently been asked why it is that when we quote the wholesale price of beef at 10 to 12 cents per pound, the butchers charge us 15 to 18 cents per lb. In order to answer this question satisfactorily and accurately, we spent considerable time in tracing several animals from the yards at 44th-st. to the butchers, thence to the Washington Market, and thence to the consumer. We give as an average example, the results obtained in cutting up a bullock which was sold to the butcher for $66, and which weighed, when dressed, just 600 lbs. In this city the hide, tallow, tongue and feet are called the "fifth quarter." Beeves are sold by the estimated net weight. When weighed alive the usual net weight, without the "fifth quarter," is reckoned at 56 lbs., for each hundred lbs. of live weight.

The manner of cutting up the carcass, with the designation of the parts, used in this market, is shown by the following diagram and explanations:



No. 1, is Porter House steak with the tenderloin (on the inside); 2, hip and sirloin; 3, rump; 4, rump steaks (round); 5, leg pice; 6, is by some called the "veiny piece," and by others it is divided, a part to No. 6 and a part to No. 7; 7, is called the "top of the sirloin," or "over the sirlion," though lying under it when the animal is standing; 8, best rib pieces; 9 and 10, "chuck ribs;" 11, plate and navel; 12, shoulder clod (soup pieces); on the inside of 12 lies the "cross ribs; the lower part of 12 is called the "shin;" 13, chuck pieces; 14, brisket. The relative weight of these parts in a carcass weighing 600 lbs. is shown below.

The animal above alluded to, when butchered, yielded for the "fifth quarter:"

Hide, 60 lbs., sold for 6c	$3 60
Rough Tallow, 50 lbs., sold for 8½c	4 25
The four feet sold for 6c. each	0 24
The tongue sold for	0 44
Total for "fifth quarter"	$8 43

The heart, liver, tripe and head, according to general custom, went to the "butcher boys," as perquisites.

The dressed beef sold at retail as follows:

30 lbs.	Porter-house and tenderloin	at 18d*	$4 63
76 lbs.	Hip or sirloin	at 15d.	11 88
50 lbs.	Best rib pieces	at 15d.	7 83
36 lbs.	Cross rib pieces	at 12d.	4 50
40 lbs.	Rump steaks	at 12d.	5 00
60 lbs.	Chuck ribs	at 11d.	6 88
50 lbs.	Rump	at 10d.	5 20
12 lbs.	From over sirlion	at 10d.	1 25
80 lbs.	Plate, navel and brisket	at 8d.	6 67
36 lbs.	Shoulder clod, soup pieces	at 7d.	2 63
80 lbs.	Chuck pieces	at 6d.	5 00
20 lbs.	Shin pieces	at 4d.	83
30 lbs.	Legs	at 4d.	1 25
600 lbs.	Retailed for		$63 55

The butcher's account stands thus:

One beef,	Dr.	
To cash paid at Forty-fourth street		$66 00
	Cr.	
By "Fifth Quarter"	$8 43	
By 600 lbs. Meat retailed	63 55	$71 98
Profit		$5 98

This $5 98 must cover time, interest, bad debts, rent, retailing wagons, &c., &c.

We thus see that the butchers have a scanty profit, when they pay 11 cents per pound and retail at the prices given above. Their only chance of profit at these prices is when they can buy below 11 cents, which they usually must do, or else retail at higher rates.

COMPOSITION OF WHEAT FLOUR.

Some interesting experiments upon wheat flour have been made, under the direction of Government, by Prof. L. Beck. Thirty-three samples, taken from different brands of flour, were analyzed, to ascertain the relative amount of gluten, starch and water. It will be remembered that the gluten furnishes the elements of muscular or lean flesh, which gives force or power; the starch affords elements for fat, and to support the warmth of the system, while the water is of no value.

The average composition obtained by separate analyses of three samples of each brand of flour, we have arranged in the following table, and added some notes of comparison. The whole will be found convenient for future reference.

100 *parts of*	*Starch.*	*Gluten.*	*Water.*
Super-Extra Genesee	67.00	12.09	13.00
Pure Genesee	68.06	12.82	13.35
Julian Mills	71.00	11.75	12.50
Excelsior Brand	70.20	11.40	12.40
Ohio Wheat and Grinding	68.67*	11.90	12.00
Zanesville Mills, Ohio	67.06	14.25	13.85
Venice Mills, Ohio	75.04	12.60	12.36
From Indiana Wheat	67.00	11.90	12.85
Chicago Wheat, Oswego Mills	66.00	11.25	12.90
Bruce Mills, Michigan	65.60	11.85	13.20
From Floyd Co., Georgia	68.93	14.36	11.75
Average composition	68.59	12.37	12.75

It will be noticed that the Georgia flour furnishes the largest per centage of gluten. This is the case with Southern flour generally.

The largest amount of both gluten and starch, 83.29, is also found in the Georgia flour. The total of gluten and starch stands thus: Georgia, 83.29; Julian Mills, 82.75; Excelsior brand, 81.60; Zanesville Mills, O., 81.31; Pure Genesee, 80.88; Ohio Wheat, ground in Ohio, 80.57; Super-Extra Genesee, 79.00; Flour from Indiana Wheat, 78.90; Venice Mills, Ohio, 77.64; Bruce Mills, Michigan, 77.35; Chicago Wheat, ground at Oswego Mills, 77.25.

If all the remainder, after deducting starch, gluten and water, be reckoned as bran or woody fiber, the average amount of this substance is about 7 per cent. The number of pounds of bran in 100 parts of each kind of flour is as follows: Venice Mills, 10.00; Chicago Wheat ground at Oswego, 9.85; Bruce Mills, Mich., 9.45; Flour from Indiana wheat, 8.25; Super-Extra Genesee, 8.00; Ohio wheat and grinding, 7.43; Excelsior brand, 6.00; Pure Genesee, 5.77; Zanesville Mills, Ohio, 4.84; Julian Mills, 4.75; Georgia, 4.07.

Deducting the water, and calling all the rest solid matter, the solid matter in 100 lbs. stands as follows: Average solid matter, 87.26; In Georgia flour, 88.25; Ohio wheat and grinding, 88.00; Venice Mills, O., 87.64; Excelsior brand, 87.60; Julian Mills, 87.50; Flour from Indiana wheat, 87.15; Oswego flour from Chicago wheat, 87.10; Super-Ex.

---

* In this City, most articles sold at retail are reckoned in pence instead of cents.

* In the published report this figure is given as 58.67, which we think must be the result of a typographical error, and we have accordingly altered the 5 to a 6, making it 68.67.—Ed. Am. Ag.

Genesee, 87.00; Bruce Mills, Mich., 86.80; Pure Genesee, 86.65; Zanesville Mills, Ohio, 86.15.

Agricultural Patents.—The following number of Patents were issued in the United States prior to the year 1855. For Threshing Machines, 378; for Plows, 372; for Winnowing Machines, 163; for Straw Cutters, 153; for Smut Machines, 140; for Grain and Grass Harvesters, 110; Total for these six kinds of implements, 1,317; of which a large proportion have been obtained within a few years past.

SWAMP OR MUCK ASHES.

Answer to Inquiries.

A subscriber in Connecticut writes: "I have on a piece of swamp land which I have under improvement (or in process of it), some twenty or thirty acres, from which I have to take or pare some six inches or more of roots, leaves, &c. This is simply an excess of vegetable matter, and when burned it gives me from two to three thousand bushels of ashes per acre. Please inform me if I can find sale for these in New-York; and, if so, at what price, and through what channel."

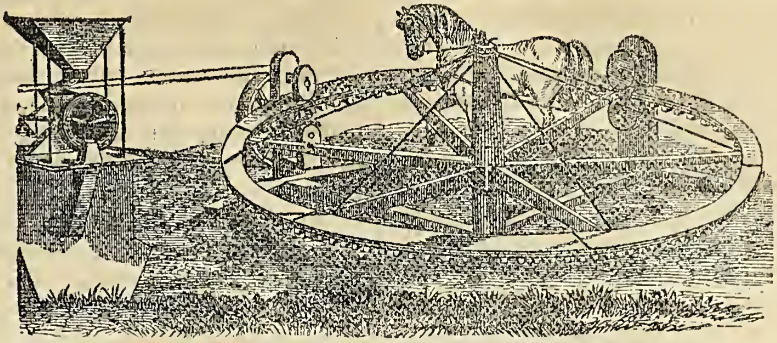
Remarks.—In reply to the above, and other similar inquiries, we do not know of any one who would purchase ashes of such a character. They are of necessity mingled with considerable quantities of soil, and are of very variable quality. The most economical mode of disposing of them would be to leach them at the nearest practicable point to the place of production, if they can not be sold for application to land in the vicinity. If there are intelligent neighboring farmers, they will pay more for such ashes than any distant dealer, or leacher could possibly afford to give.

But we should be far from advising to burn such peaty soils. The ashes have not a tithe of the value possessed by the unburned material; such vegetable matters are just what is most needed by nine-tenths of the soils of Connecticut, and other long-cultured regions. Let them be composted with lime, or unleached ashes, or with barnyard manures, and then applied to soils deficient in organic or vegetable matter.

If there are roots and bushes too coarse for this purpose, let the coarser materials be gathered and burned, and the ashes from these composted with the finer portions will produce a most excellent manure.

Carrots for Poultry.—W. C., in the Rural New-Yorker, strongly recommends feeding carrots to poultry. He says he practices this daily, and believes that any one who tries it will not readily discontinue the practice. He chops them finely with a common sausage meat cutter, and mixes them with meal, scraps, &c., and thinks they are the most profitable food that can be used for fowls.

Honesty is silently commended even by the practice of the most wicked; for their deceit s under its color.



TAPLIN'S HORSE POWER.

Above we present a cut of a horse power that has been in use for a number of years, and which, after this long trial, proves to be one of the best, notwithstanding the pretentious claims of more complicated powers of recent origin. Its construction is readily seen from the illustration, where it is shown attached to a portable grist mill. It consists essentially of a wooden rim, twenty to twenty five feet in diameter, with wrought iron cogs upon the lower side, which work into a pinion placed upon the end of the shaft of the band-wheel. The motion may be communicated to other machinery, either by a band, rope or chain, or by shafts or rods. The cogs are upon, or rather a part of, iron plates, and bolted on in segments or separate pieces, fitting well together to form a continuous circle. The horses walk around in the circle, where they are readily admitted by a simple unhooking arrangement which opens the side of the rim, after the manner of a gate.

There are two prominent and important advantages possessed by this power: First, its great simplicity, which makes it far less liable to get out of repair; and second, a saving of much of the power lost by friction in the ordinary complicated wheel gearings. It is put together in parts, so as to be readily put up or taken down for transportation or storage.

The larger circles are preferable to those of smaller size, as they give a larger crib for the horse to walk in, and the power is more at right angles to the pinion.

A distinguished planter from South Carolina, wrote us last month: "I introduced the Taplin horse powers here, and no one who has seen them has purchased any other kind since. They are the *only* kind *we* can use on our plantations; and if the cotton planters knew them, not one would ever buy any other kind. This power is in fact nothing but the running gear of our cotton gins; rendered moveable. The two powers are *identical* and we all know how to use them. In fact I would not accept as a present any other horse power now in use."

Some Corn.—At the recent exhibition of the U. S. Agricultural Society at Boston, Hon. Edward Everett exhibited, during his address, a large ear of corn, which had been presented to him, containing 720 kernels. We have before us an ear raised by Mr. F. R. Rives, of Albemarle, Virginia, which goes ahead of that shown by Mr. Everett. This ear is 13 inches long, 8 inches in circumference nearly the whole length, and contains 863 plump kernels. It is the common white Virginia corn, was raised, without manure, upon clover sod plowed under during the previous winter. There are more of a similar sort in the field where this grew.

TOBACCO ANALYSIS.

The following analyses of the ashes of the leaf and stalk of tobacco were made in the Laboratory of Prof. Chas. B. Stuart, of Randolph, Macon College, by Mr. W. A. Shepard. We are personally acquainted with both of these gentlemen, having passed some time with them in the Yale College Analytical Laboratory, and from what we know of their carefulness and skill, we attach considerable value to the analyses as here given. The dried tobacco leaf and the stalk were carefully burned. One hundred parts of the dried leaf yielded about 18½ (18.47) parts of ashes which is a very large proportion, when we remember that most kinds of wood and other vegetable substances give but two or three per cent of ash. 100 parts of the ashes experimented upon gave as follows:

	Leaf.	Stalk.
Sulphuric acid	2.95	4.12
Chlorine	5.93	14.42
Phosphoric acid	6.08	6.70
Lime	35.83	26.34
Potash	30.46	35.32
Soda	2.95	1.14
Magnesia	6.96	8.30
Soluble silica	1.59	17
Charcoal and sand	6.95	3.88
Iron, merely	a trace.	a trace.
	99.70	100 39

The absence of iron is somewhat remarkable, as there is usually considerable quantities of this substance found in the ashes of most plants. We see that full two-thirds of the ash is potash and lime. Every 100 lbs. of dry tobacco would, according to this analysis, have taken from the soil about 6 lbs. each of potash and lime.

The specimens used were of the variety known as the "Orinico," raised in southern Virginia.

Air Necessary for Decomposition.—The presence of atmospheric or oxygen appears essential to the first development, if not to the continuance of nearly all of decomposition. Meat, vegetables, and indeed most organic substances can be kept from the atmosphere for years. Eggs lose their property of absorbing oxygen by immersion in milk of lime; the small amount of carbonic acid contained within the shell uniting with the solution of lime that penetrates into the pores of the shell, and forming an insoluble carbonate, shutting up all the apertures by which air can enter. Eggs have been found sweet after being kept in this manner over three years. Wood sunk several feet beneath the surface of the peat bog is preserved from decay, the oxygen absorbed by the organic matter above it not being able to reach it.

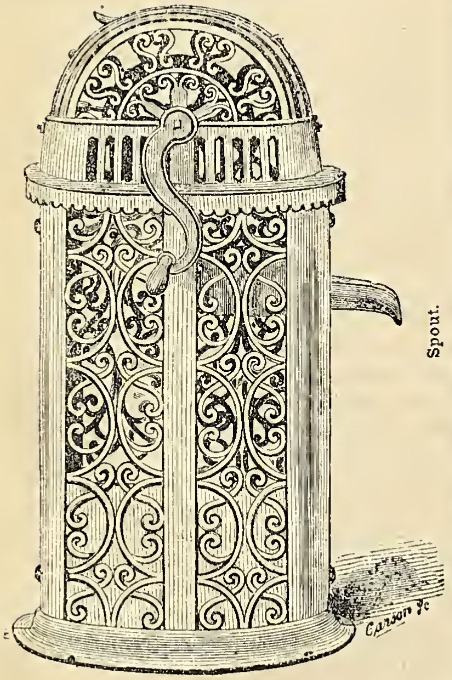
CHAIN PUMPS.

These are very convenient for use in wells of moderate depth. In those of great depth too much time is required for starting the water, and the weight to be raised before the delivery of any at the spout, makes them too hard for boys and females. In the absence of a force-pump water may even be raised with the chain-pump from a greater depth than with a common "suction-pump," which can only be used for less than 32, or at most 33 feet—that is, theoretically; practically they do not work durably at a greater depth than 15 to 20 feet.

The chain pump has been used in wells 50 to 60 feet deep, but rapid motion of the chain and a strong arm is required, and we should seldom recommend them for more than forty feet.

There are also wells occasionally found containing considerable quantities of sulphuric or other acids, which corrode the chain. In such wells this kind of pump is impracticable. We have seen a chain entirely destroyed in three months. Such wells, however, are not common, and the discovery that one of these pumps is corroding rapidly, is worth more than the cost of the pump, for such water is not fit for man or beast. The same acids that would destroy one of these chains would soon destroy the teeth, to say nothing of other injurious results.

We have noticed at agricultural shows, and in agricultural warehouses, a variety of frames or curbs, which are quite ornamental. We give a cut of one of them:



They are made of cast iron, neatly painted, and occupy but little space. The cost of one of these curbs in New-York, including say 15 feet of chain below the surface of the ground, with other necessary fixtures, is about $10. For extra chain, including tubing, the charge is usually about 20 cents per running foot, we believe.

Without the curb the usual charge is, for crank, windlass and lower wheel, $1.50; for tubing 10 cents per foot; and for chain (double) 10 cents a foot: thus for a well 20 feet deep:

Crank and wheels	$1.50
22 feet of tube	2.20
23 feet double chain	2.30
Total	$6.00

Or, with curb like that shown in the figure:

Curb, wheels and crank	$6.00
22 feet of tube	2.20
23 feet double chain	2.30
Total	$10.50

The chain is made 23 feet instead of 20, to allow for three feet above the surface of the ground.

The most prominent advantages of these pumps are, that the water is always kept free from the taste of the pump-stocks, and that they do not freeze in winter.

The same pump will answer to raise water to two different elevations, and a spout may also be attached to the two opposite sides, and water drawn from one or the other, by reversing the motion of the crank. A description of such an arrangement, on the farm of Mr. Hazard, is given on page 201 of Vol. XIV of this journal.

FLAX COTTON.

At the recent Annual Exhibition of the American Institute, several most elegant specimens of flax cotton, made under the patent granted to Jonathan Knowles, February 14, 1854, were exhibited by the Knowles Patent Linen Fiber Company. For beauty of coloring, fineness, delicacy, strength, and pliability of fiber, they surpass other samples of flax that we have seen. It has long been known that the stalk of the flax plant was capable of conversion into cotton, and that when thus prepared it possessed many important advantages over the staple now so extensively cultivated in the United States and so universally used by the population of the world. Flax may be spun, woven, and manufactured into every variety of goods that are made of common cotton. It may be used in many kinds of cloth, combined with wool, where cotton is excluded, and in all cases forms a superior substitute; it holds color better than cotton, or even wool. Flax is very easily cultivated, and grows with vigor wherever corn and wheat flourish. Nothing can be more plain than the fact, that if there were any economical process whereby the flax stalks could be easily changed into cotton, its cultivation would be rendered universal. It would become one of the great staples of the world. In the back volumes of the Scientific American we have published much valuable information respecting flax, and the methods of its preparation. Claussen's process, which at one time attracted considerable attention, we have fully described. It is said that Claussen could not produce the prepared flax so cheaply, nor of so good a quality as the ordinary cotton of commerce, and hence his discovery was of little avail, and has almost passed into oblivion. The Knowles Company now present themselves to the public, and claim to have succeeded where Claussen failed.

Knowles' process consists in cutting the flax stalks, whether rotted or not, into proper lengths for staple, boiling it in a weak alkaline solution of soda or potash, until the shives separate on rubbing. It is then bleached by chlorine, adding at the same time, borax, salt, saltpeter, Glauber's salts, Epsom salts, sal ammoniac, or other similar salt. It is then washed with water and dried.

The Company assert that in this manner the farmer can produce flax cotton at a cost under five cents a pound, whereas common cotton sells for from eight to twenty cents. The apparatus required costs from $500 to $1,000, to which, we suppose, must be added the cost of the right to use the patent.

If the statements of the Knowles Company are correct, and we have no reason to doubt them, the invention is certainly one of extraordinary value and importance. The subject is worthy the most careful examination by all agriculturists and manufacturers.

Among the members of the Company we notice the names of several of our most respectable citizens; Mr. Charles M. Keller, is the President. The original capital subscribed was $5,000. Subsequently it was increased to $1,000,000, in order to purchase the English and French patents. Mr. Knowles appears to be a very lucky inventor.—Scientific American.

FALL PLOWING.

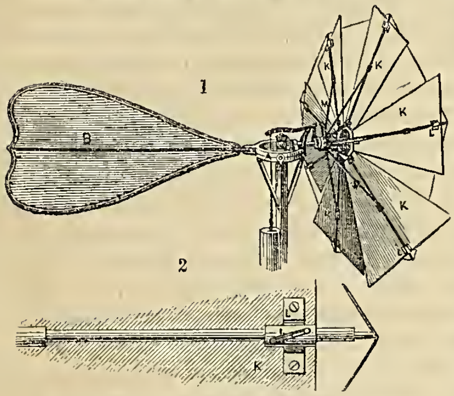
The custom of plowing in Autumn for early spring crops has been steadily increasing among us for nine years. The advantages of it are so many and so decided that it has but to be tried to commend itself to practice.

In our northwestern climate there are some peculiar inducements to it which do not exist to such an extent elsewhere. Our spring seasons are very uncertain. Sometimes we have a spring, and sometimes we do not. The frost is likely to hold on, or the rain deluges the ground to such an extent that there is no time for plowing, and the spring crops which await it are either very much curtailed in quantity or are put in at so late a period as to turn out but poorly. On the other hand our autumns are glorious. They are that on which we plume ourselves. Anybody who wants to know what autumn can be, should live in the vicinity of these great lakes, whose waters, when once thoroughly warmed by the summer, keep the air about them warm, till winter has come to others. Hence, while we have little time to plow in spring we have an abundance of it in autumn.

The testimony of experience is that fall plowing for early crops is not only as good as that in the spring, but that it is better, on a large class of our soils, since their tendency to lightness is such that the settling which the frost gives them is rather a benefit than a damage. On the other hand, clayey lands can not safely be sowed early enough for spring crops if the plowing is delayed over winter, since plowing only serves to make the surface into mortar. Fall plowing for clay lands is the very thing for them, heaving them up to the frost, which is their great agent of fertility.

On all lands, then, fall plowing is the thing. Let us urge to a full use of it while the calm, smoky days of October and November last. While some gather the potatoes and the corn, let others keep the team in motion.

THE VERMONT WIND-MILL.



Invented by A. P. Brown, of Brattleboro', Vt.

The illustration above accompanied an advertisement in this number. We can not speak understandingly of this mill, as we have not seen it. As the subject is one of considerable interest, we publish, without necessarily endorsing all said, the following remarks furnished us by an interested party, as they apply equally well to any other *good* wind-mill. The writer should have closed several sentences with "when the wind blows." He says:

The advantage of using wind in preference to horse or steam-power has not been duly appreciated by farmers and mechanics. The difficulties in using wind-power to advantage are overcome in the mill above represented. It is ingenious, simple, and a most perfect regulator of its own motion. It spreads a wide sail to a light breeze, and a small surface to a heavy one. An accelerated motion is checked by the action of the mill itself as readily as the steam-engine is checked by the action of *Watt's centrifugal governor*.

Its construction will be readily understood by reference to the engraving. The radical feature in which this machine differs from others is simply this: It governs the obliquity of its own fans, *k*, to the wind by means of the centrifugal force of those fans. Each is furnished with a helical or spiral slot and pin, made fast in the arm, as seen at *i*, fig. 2. In case of acceleration, the tendency of the fans is to overcome a suitable coiled spring, or a weighted lever, and to move farther out on their respective arms, and in so doing the spiral groove, or slot, slides on the pin and turns the fan more and more edgewise to the wind, presenting *less* surface. When the velocity of the wheel is diminished, the spring or weight immediately draws the fans in an opposite direction, and the same slot and pin turn them more to the wind, always adjusting itself to the necessities of the occasion.

Farmers and others in want of a cheap motive power, should look to the inducements offered of putting up wind-mills upon their farms or premises. It may be used very economically to pump water for irrigating or draining land, watering cattle, or for household purposes to the tops of houses. It may be used, and will operate very satisfactorily, to thrash and clean all kinds of grain, to shell corn, and grind wheat, rye, corn, or any other thing to be ground, cut, or mashed, such as apples, roots, vegetables, etc. It is particularly adapted to churning, working butter, washing, turning grindstones, sawing wood, cutting straw, and stalks, or fodder. It will bore and mortise timber, drive small saw-mills, lath-machines, turning-lathes, etc., etc., and, if you wish, it will ventilate your house exceedingly well. It will *not* plow, harrow, cultivate, or mow, but any work which can be *brought to it* may be performed; and it will perform readily, without waiting to be caught, fed, or harnessed. The only food these mills require is about one gallon of oil a year. They do not require as much nursing and attention as horses or oxen, one coat of paint will keep them clean and beautiful a year or more. The attachments used to connect them to different machines, so as to do different kinds of work, cost less than the harness and equipage of horses, and will last more than twice as long. The expense for repairs is much less than that for the shoeing and preparing of teams for labor. The same amount of power costs less, and the wind will not die. Wind-mills will work by night as well as by day, and will run steadily without a driver. They are generally ready to work the greatest number of hours when their work is most needed, viz., in the fall, winter, and spring. They do not regard the ten-hour system, but work early and late, summer and winter.

Look Well to the Farm Stock.—One of the most observable features among the live stock, in this season of abundance, is the ill condition in which they are prepared for the winter. The luxuriant growth of grass has been at the expense of its nutricious qualities, and every where we go, we find the cattle, and more particularly the sheep, in a lean and often sickly condition; and when we consider that very much of the hay and grain for next winter's use is a good deal damaged, we feel apprehensive that our farmers will suffer great loss among their animals, unless they bestir themselves in time. Farm stock now, is even worse prepared for the winter, than after the great drouth of last year. Sheep and calves should be looked to closely. Get them in good heart, and provide ample shelter and dry quarters against the storms coming on, or you will see such a display of sheeps' pelts and kip skins upon the fences before next spring, as will tell badly upon the profits of the season.

WINTER MANAGEMENT OF LAMBS.

The necessity for making ample provision of pasture for lambs from their weaning until the approach of winter has already been urged. This, however, is not properly attended to by many, and when winter is at hand, their condition is by no means what it should be. It may be set down as a rule never to be transgressed with impunity, that all animals when growing should be bountifully fed, as well as receive all other proper attentions conducive to their welfare; otherwise, it will be in vain to expect, when at maturity, they will exhibit the perfection of their species. The general qualities of any domestic animal, however perfect nature may have done her work, can always be further improved by art, or otherwise, by judicious feeding, and strict attentions in every other regard. It is very much from this cause, that celebrated breeders have gained their renown for improvements effected in breeds of cattle, as well as sheep. If we would have perfect animals, we can not commence too early to lay the foundation of their excellence.

It is a custom with quite a large majority of sheep farmers to delay graining their lambs until the approach of spring, when they are sometimes far gone in poverty. Is this wise? Would it have been thus if they had been grain-fed at the beginning and through the early part of winter? Is it not better to begin as soon as this, in order to furnish them with the necessary stamina to withstand the severity of northern winters, which is always greatest in the months of January and February? Put them early in a condition to pass through those terrible months, and subsequently all will be well. Truly the course of flock-masters, in this regard, is like giving the patient his medicine when he is on the confines of death! Therefore, viewing the matter in this light, the writer has no hesitation in saying that a single peck of grain fed in December is worth the bushel fed in March.

As we remarked at the conclusion of summer management, the grass at the beginning of November loses much of its nutrition from repeated freezing; therefore at this period the lambs should be assembled, and classed relative to size and condition, divided into flocks of about 100 each, and feeding them grain should forthwith commence. As it is sometimes impracticable to call them into the sheep-folds without considerable trouble, the feeding-troughs should be removed to the field in which they are confined; then the flock-master may begin feeding them about four quarts of oats daily, which he should be careful to distribute the entire length of the troughs. They will be very shy for a day or two, but the example of approaching them by the tame sheep which were placed among them at weaning time, will be the means of soon overcoming it. After the lapse of a week, the quantity of grain may be gradually increased to half a bushel, which should be the minimum quantity for the residue of the season. When the major portion have partaken of the oats, the troughs may be removed back to the sheep-yards, and the time fixed for feeding should be about sundown, after which they can retire to the shelters, should the weather require it. At this time, a little hay should also be given early in the morning, which may be pursued until circumstances demand a change wholly to fodder.

About the middle of December, or before, let the feed be somewhat changed, by mixing with the oats a portion of pea-meal or wheat shorts; at all events, let it be meal of some kind which they may fancy, for in order to induce them to eat potatoes it will be necessary to cut them into delicate pieces and sprinkle the meal well over them. If sheep are wholly unaccustomed to potatoes their aversion to them will not be overcome without the adoption of this course. Beets and rut-baga may be substituted for the potatoes; but the reader has been informed that they are better adapted to the purpose of the sheep-fattener. If it is our wish to grow wool and not fat mutton, it will be wise in us to use those means which will afford the largest returns. Half a bushel of potatoes given at intervals of twice a week will be the right quantity, which it will be well to continue to sprinkle with meal, as well as with a small quantity of salt. On other days the pea-meal and oats may be fed.

The hay given them should be of fine stalk, and of the choicest quality; but in its place may be substituted once or twice a week, for a single foddering, oat or barley straw. If the lambs are thus provided through the winter, and have the benefit of warm shelters, their size at shearing time will equal the majority of two-year-olds, whose treatment has been only *ordinary*.

Remarks.—The foregoing from Morrel is timely and should be attended to by every farmer. We, however, will venture to add the result of our own experience on the same subject. If you wish to keep your lambs in good health and condition, get some of the large round oil cakes, the larger the cakes the better, though they are generally of about twenty-five to forty pounds weight each. Take a slab or plank and put short legs into it say a foot long. Bore an inch hole through the cake and plank and put in a good strong pin, and place it under the sheds where the lambs run. About ten such cakes to a flock will do very well. If the lambs do not begin to lick them within a day or two, put a little salt on, it will not be long before you will find them at the cake, and they will work at it until it is all consumed. They can not get off enough to injure them, but they will get enough to make a manifest improvement in their condition. The cakes must be renewed, of course when used up.—Wool Grower.

Buckwheat Cakes.—Buckwheat cakes! One buckwheat cake "differeth from another in glory," yet not one in a thousand is made right. Yet of all things it is the easiest to cook, if the meal is made rightly. To every three bushels of buckwheat, add one of good heavy oats; grind them together as if there was only buckwheat; thus will you have cakes always light and always brown, to say nothing of the greater digestibility, and the lightening of spirits, which are equally certain. He who feeds on buckwheat may be grum and lethargic, while he of the oatmeal will have exhileration of brain and contentment of spirit.

CLAY FOR LIGHT LAND.

At a late agricultural discussion in England, Mr. H. S. Thompson said: "For the last fifteen years he had farmed some land which was bought for £6 10s. an acre, and was let for about half-a-crown an acre for many years afterwards. That land is now let at 50s. an acre, and was as good arable land as any in his neighborhood. When let at the low rent it was a blowing sand, but by a course of improvement it was now capable of producing five quarters of wheat per acre. There was no royal road to farming; and, if they wanted to get their land into a really first-rate state of productiveness, it must be by patient steps of improvement carried over a considerable number of years. Some people thought it was madness in him to put 100 loads of clay per acre on to his light land; but he was of opinion that every load of clay he put on had been extremely well laid out. He had lately visited one of the best Norfolk farmers, who had told him it had been the custom there to put on the light land thirty or forty loads of clay per acre, and to repeat that about every twelve years. The land had, in consequence so altered in quality that it was almost impossible to recognize it again. This farmer was a great Protectionist a few years ago, and he said he would not care for free trade if he could grow what he liked on his land. By the means to which he had alluded, blowing sandy soils have been converted into fertile land, and he believed much more might be done in this country than had ever yet been attempted. They might cart their clay or marl in winter, or at other times when their men and horses had little to do. It was a permanent improvement if they put clay on sand when pretty level; and it was one which tenant-farmers might introduce with advantage. He believed that if they set to work with their land to put clay or marl on the light land, and sand on the clay land, or burnt or deepened it, combined with a thorough exposure to the atmosphere, after a few years they might bring such land into a more productive state."

A Profitable Crop.—Mr. Sidney H. Owens, who purchased Winchester's Island, containing 80 acres, for $6,000, a few months, ago, has realized half that sum from his crop of broom corn this season. Mr. O. had sixty acres under cultivation from which he realized 40,000 pounds of broom straw, and sold it at prices varying from $7.50 to $10 per hundred—averaging full $8, which makes the gross sum of $3,200. In addition to this he has gathered about three thousand bushels of seed, worth 25 cents per bushel, or $750 for the lot, which makes almost $4,000 for the produce of only sixty acres, and expense of cultivation was about $1,000 which leaves $3,000 net.—Fredericksburgh (Va.) Herald.

REGULARITY IN FEEDING CATTLE.

Stephens, in his "Book of the Farm," gives the following illustration of the necessity of regularity and method of agricultural duties:

In thus minutely detailing the duties of the cattle-man, my object has been to show you rather how the turnips and fodder should be distributed relatively than absolutely; but whatever hour and minute the cattle-man finds, from his experience, he can devote to each portion of his work, you should see that he performs *the same operation at the same time every day*. By paying strict attention to time, the cattle will be ready for and expect their wonted meals at the appointed times, and will not complain until they arrive. Complaints from his stock should be distressing to every farmer's ears, for he may be assured they will not complain until they feel hunger, and if allowed to hunger they will not only lose condition, but render themselves, by discontent, less capable of acquiring it when the food happens to be fully given. Wherever you hear lowings from cattle, you may safely conclude that matters are conducted there in an irregular manner. The cattle-man's rule is a simple one, and easily remembered—*Give food and fodder to cattle at fixed times, and dispense them in a fixed routine.* I had a striking instance of the bad effects of irregular attention to cattle. An old staid laborer was appointed to take charge of cattle, and was quite able and willing to undertake the task. He got his own way at first, as I had observed many laboring men display great ingenuity in arranging their work. Lowings were soon heard from the stock in all quarters, both in and out of doors, which intimated the want of regularity in the cattle-man; while the poor creature himself was constantly in a state of bustle and uneasiness. To put an end to this disorderly state of things, I apportioned his entire day's work by his own watch; and on implicitly following the plan he not only satisfied the wants of every animal committed to his charge, but had abundant leisure to lend a hand to anything that required his temporary assistance. His old heart overflowed with gratitude when he found the way of making all his creatures happy, and his kindness to them was so undeviating, they would have done whatever he liked.

Time of Putting up Hogs to Fatten.—The best time to commence fattening your hogs, will necessarily depend upon your supply of mast in your woods—if your hogs be there. While they find enough in the woods to keep them in good thriving condition, the hogs may be permitted to remain there. But we desire to impress the fact upon your consideration; hogs take on fat much better in weather moderately warm than they do when it is cold; that in cold weather much food is required to keep up the heat of their bodies, hence, that all abstracted for this purpose is a tax upon flesh and fat.

All countries are a wise man's home.

BREEDING ANIMALS.

Influence of Parents on Progeny.

The following chapter affords a subject for thought and observation, and is interesting and instructive withal:

Much difference of opinion prevails as to relative influence of the male and female parent in determining the characters of the progeny. According to a very prevalent notion, the male bestows all valuable qualities, whether of form or of vigor; while the female is regarded merely as a passive instrument which hatches, as it were, the male seed—an absurd doctrine long preserved from well merited obloquy as a convenient excuse for carelessness and neglect in the selection of the female parent. A most ingenious hypothesis has lately been propounded by Mr. Orton of Sunderland, in a paper published in the Newcastle Chronicle of 10th March, 1854, and noticed at considerable length in the Monthly Medical Journal for August of the same year. The male animal, according to Mr. Orton, influences especially the external, and the female the internal organization of the offspring. The outward form, general appearance, and organs of locomotion are chiefly determined by the male; the vital organs, size, general vigor, and endurance, by the female. Many most interesting facts, of which we subjoin a few, are adduced in support of this proposition. There are many reasons for believing that Mr. Orton's views afford a clue to an important law of physiology. But this, it must be remembered, can not be the only law operating in the process of generation, and as Mr. Orton himself states, it must consequently be liable to many modifications, and must only be accepted with certain restrictions. Thus the parent, which at the time of copulation is more powerful and vigorous, doubtless imparts to the progeny an unduly large share of its own prominent characters.

The mule is the produce of a male ass and the mare; the *hinny*, (or as it is called the *muto*) that of the horse and the she-ass. Both hybrids are the produce of the same set of animals. They differ widely, however, in their respective characters—the mule in all that relates to its external characters, having the distinctive features of the ass—the hinny, in the same respects, having all the distinctive features of the horse; while, in all that relates to the internal organs and vital qualities, the mule partakes of the characters of the horse, and the hinny of those of the ass. Mr. Orton, speaking of this says: "The mule, the produce of the male ass and mare, is essentially a *modified ass;* the ears are those of an ass somewhat shortened; the mane is that of the ass erect; the tail is that of an ass; the skin and color are those of an ass somewhat modified; the legs are slender, and the hoofs high, narrow, and contracted, like those of an ass; in fact, in all these respects it is an ass somewhat modified. The body an barrel of the mule are round and full, in which it differs from the ass, and resembles the mare. The hinny, (or muto) on the other hand, the produce of the stallion and she-ass, is essentially a *modified horse;* the ears are those of a horse somewhat lengthened; the mane flowing; the tail is bushy, like that of the horse; the skin is fine, like that of the horse; and the color varies also like the horse; the legs are stronger, and the hoofs broad and expanded, like those of the horse. In fact, in all these respects, it is a horse somewhat modified. The body and barrel, however, of the hinny are flat and narrow, in which it differs from the horse, and resembles its mother the ass. The mule and hinny," adds Mr. Orton, "have been selected and placed first, because they afford the most conclusive evidence, and are the most familiar." Equally conclusive, although perhaps less striking instances, may be drawn from other sources. Thus it has been observed, that when the Ancona, or other sheep, are allowed to breed with common ewes, the cross is not a medium between the two breeds, but that the offspring retains in a great measure the short and twisted legs of the sire.

Buffon made a cross between the male goat and ewe; the resulting hybrid in all the instances, which were many, were strongly characteristic of the male parent, more particularly so in the hair and length of leg. Curiously enough, the number of teats in some of the cases corresponded with those of the goat.

A cross between a male wolf and a bitch illustrates the same law; the offspring having a markedly wolfish aspect, skin, color, ears, and tail. On the other hand, a cross between the dog and female wolf afforded animals much more dog-like in aspect—slouched ears and even pied in color. If you look to the descriptions and illustrations of these two hybrids, you will perceive at a glance that the doubt arises to the mind in the case of the first, "What genus of *wolf* is this?" whereas in the case of the second, "What a curious *mongrel dog!*"

Among birds we have the same results, and they afford the like illustrations to our subject. Those who have had much to do with pigeons, must have perceived that a cross between a *carrier* cock and a *dragoon* hen, is always a fine bird, and very nearly equal to the carrier; whereas a cross between a dragoon cock and carrier hen results in nothing better than a dragoon. Precisely the same may be observed in the cross between the *tumbler* and *pouter*.

"It is curious to observe," continues Mr. Orton, that the proposition I make regarding male influence should not only have been observed, but distinctly stated in so many words. Mr. Lloyd says: "The *capercailli* occasionally breed with the *black grouse*, and the produce are in Sweeden called *racklelianen*. These partake of the leading characters of both parents, but their size and color greatly depend upon whether they have been produced between the capercailli cock and gray hen, or *vice versa*. (Yarrell, p. 298.) The hybrid between the pheasant and grouse is a striking illustration, showing so clearly its male parent; in almost all respects it is a pheasant, only the tail slightly shortened. It may be observed, too, that the feathered feet of the grouse have disappeared in the offspring. (Ibid. p. 309.) Another instance of the same cross, is given, (p. 311) in which the general characteristics are those of the pheasant; and this would have been still more striking if the tail had not been spread, a liberty, I suspect, either of the artist or the stuffer of the specimen. The legs in this instance are slightly feathered. Another hybrid is given (p. 313) between the *ptarmigan* and the grouse. Although the precise parentage of the bird is not stated, I am perfectly satisfied that in this case the grouse has been the male parent, and the tail indicated this, being somewhat forked and divergent. In your museum there is an interesting specimen illustrating the same law, a hybrid between the pheasant and grey hen. In this case the produce is pheasant-like in aspect, tail like the pheasant, but somewhat spread, no appearance of forking of the tail."

Even in the breeding of *fish* the same law has been observed. Sir Anthony Carlisle produced mule fish, by impregnating the spawn of the *salmon* by means of the male *trout*. The results I give in his own words: "These mules partook of the character of the trout more than of the salmon. They had bright red spots on their sides, but the black color was shaded downward in bars like those of the perch. The tails were not forked like those of the salmon, as I have seen them in the Thames *skeggers* (from which I infer the male salmon in that ease to have been the impregnators.") We thus see in the case of fish, as in that of animals, the male parent giving the external characteristics; those produced by the male trout had not forked tails; the skeggers, on the other hand, produced by the male salmon, had forked tails.—Jour. of the Roy. Ag. So.

CURING BACON WITHOUT SMOKE.

"Oh the trouble folks have taken
To smoke and spoil their bacon."

To make the best bacon, fat your hogs early and fat them well. By fattening early you make a great saving in food, and well fattened pork. Then kill as early as the weather will allow, and salt as soon as the animal heat is gone, with a plenty of the purest salt, and about half an ounce of saltpetre to one hundred pounds of pork.

As soon as the meat is salted to your taste, which will generally be in about five weeks, take it out, and if any of it has been covered with brine, let it drain a little. Then take black pepper, finely ground, and dust on the hock end as much as will stick, then hang it up in a good, clean, dry, airy place. If all this is done as it should be, (it ought to be done now,) you will have no further trouble with it, for by fly time in spring, your bacon is so well cured on the outside, that flies or bugs will not disturb it.

Curing bacon is like the Irishman's mode of making punch. He said, "Put in the sugar, then fill it up with whiskey, and every drop of water you put in after that spoils the punch." Just so with curing bacon, after following the directions given above, every "drop" of smoke you put about it, spoils the bacon.—Portage Dem.

MANAGEMENT OF A STOCK OF HOGS.

Does it pay to keep hogs upon a farm? that is the question. We don't know that it does, but we think it ought to pay. It is getting to be a general impression, that to raise one's own pork, and to save one's own bacon, is an expensive luxury. We do not think it is necessarily so, and will give our young friends and others who want advice a few practical hints on this subject.

A good breed of hogs you must have to start with, and thanks to the improvements of the day, you can easily get. No matter how good the breed, however, never suppose he is to live and thrive without proper and sufficient food. The more artificial the breed and the more highly improved, and the more capable of yielding a profit to good management and proper treatment, the less capable they will be of shifting for themselves. If you want a hog that will take care of himself, tear your neighbor's cornfield to pieces, and yield you no profit, get the land shark, with his nose, back, and belly exactly suited to carrying out the intelligent designs of an animal which, from its earliest infancy, has been thrown upon its own resources.

Having got a good breed, have a generous confidence that he will repay your most careful attention. It is desirable to have a permanent fixture, a lot of one or two acres, according to the number you keep, and in this have good lodging pens, where in all weather they may have dry beds of leaves, and make themselves quite comfortable—these may be made of logs, as is very common on large farms, but made of posts with plank on the most economical scale, are cheaper, perhaps, in the end. Give him any amount of liberty which may suit your convenience—let him roam in the woods in winter, or in the pasture in summer, but have your lot and your houses where you can at your pleasure bring them under proper restraint, and give them proper protection. This lot will be very useful likewise to put your pen hogs into for a week or so, in anticipation of their closer confinement in their feeding pens, that the change may not be too sudden from their "larger liberty."

Management of a Stock of Hogs.—The usual practice in the management of hogs is to keep the whole stock for the fall killing, through the previous winter. In this practice lies perhaps, the secret of want of success in hog-keeping. The most economical method, we are inclined to think, would be to keep sows enough to have the whole stock of pen hogs come about the 1st March; to be well prepared with ruta-baga turnips, or other roots, a lot of rye or other early pasture, and clover field, to furnish both sows and pigs with full supplies of succulent food from the start, and throughout the season. Such management may bring any tolerable breed to a weight of 150 to 175 lbs. by the middle of December.

This plan would require for a pen of forty hogs, eight brood sows. These sows with the boars, would be the whole stock to be wintered. They should be so managed that they would bring their pigs by the the 1st of March, and allowing for miscarriage or other accidents, might be relied on to average five to the sow. The sows being allowed to breed again, would have as many or more pigs about the 1st of September. These in a good pasture would cost very little to raise them, and might be disposed of in the fall, leaving only the stock of sows and boars after the annual killing. Of the eight sows, four might go into the fattening pen annually to be substituted by four young ones, so as to have always one-half the number, old breeders. When this is done, it would be advisable not to allow the four which are to go into the fattening pen, to breed in the summer.

Another arrangement, a compromise between this plan and the common method would be, for a pen of the size mentioned, to have four brood sows. The August and September litters of these, being kept in good condition, would go easily through the winter with proper care, and with the four sows and boar would constitute the stock to be wintered. Then taking the March litter as before, force them rapidly forward, and unless the fall litter has been particularly well kept, these will rival them in the killing pen. We think either of these suggestions, under judicious management, would take the balance of the hog account from the loss to the profit side. True economy in the management of all animals requires that they be carried as rapidly as possible through the chances of life to that point of development which they afford a return, and he is the best manager who approximates this in his practice. Old habits and old prejudices will fight against it, but we will come to it by and by.

Feeding.—A corn and cob crusher the man who keeps twenty hogs must have—that is settled. A boiler we think he will have, if he is determined to make the most of his means. He should grind every ear of corn, and soak a number of hours at any rate, if he does not steam or boil. If he only soaks, he should have two tubs, to be fed from alternately, and whenever he empties one, fill it again. If it ferments somewhat, it will be the better. Boiling, however, would be much better, and insure the appropriation of the whole nutritive matter. This food, with ruta-baga turnips, or other roots boiled or unboiled, both occasionally perhaps, and in such quantity and proportion as your judgment and experience may direct, will be the proper food for your sows—giving them enough only to keep them in good condition during the period of gestation, and ample supplies when nursing. A rye pasture will give early and valuable green food, (rye for this purpose should be sown 1½ bushels to the acre,) and the red clover succeeding, will keep up the supply. The pigs to be weaned at ten weeks old, but to be accustomed, long before that, to eat from troughs in pens from which the mothers are excluded. When weaned, see that they do not lose ground, but push them on. The sows, if well fed, will soon breed again in time to bring their litters by the last of August. These litters, if your sows have a good wood range, we have known run till Christmas without a grain of corn, and make very good thrifty shoats. The feeding of all intended for the fattening pen must be regularly carried on through the season. An acre or two, or more, of field peas would be desirable pasture for them about September. By the beginning of October they should be brought into the inclosure mentioned in the beginning, their ground corn gradually increased, with pumpkins, &c., and by the middle of October, have them in their pens on full allowance of corn until fat—taking advantage of the moderate fall weather for fattening, and killing on the *imcrease* of moon, not that we believe in the moon, not at all, but that's as good a time for killing as the decrease, and why not take all the chances against *shrinkage in the pot.*

The points that we would press as to feeding, is a generous supply from the beginning, but moderate or full in proportion as you may want a moderate size—say 150 lbs., or a larger, say 200, or more. We recommend a gradual change from pasturage, increasing the supply of more nutritious food until he can, without injury to his digestion, take a full supply—also gradual change from a free range, first to his lot of an acre, and then to his close feeding pen. Then we recommend the most thorough preparation of his food by grinding and boiling. These, with tight, dry pens, will settle the question whether hogs will pay the cost of their keep.

If the reader thinks he will further test the matter, let him open such an account as the following. It will add much to the interest of his farm operations to have a number of such accounts, and tend to promote accuracy and care in the general conduct of his business transactions:

Stock of Hogs to A. B. A.	*Dr.*
To value of stock of Hogs on hand 1st January, say eight brood of Sows, at $10	$80 00
One Boar	15 00
To Corn furnished them for 3 months, } say To Ruta-bagas " " " }	36 00
To Corn, Pasturage, &c., from 1st April to 1st of October, say	64 00
To feed and attendance on pen hogs	120 00

American Farmer.

How to Cut Hedges.—Almost all the thorn hedges one sees are chipped square, *i. e.*, the top is made flat and the sides perpendicular, the object apparently being to make them as much like a wall as possible. An observation I heard made lately seems to have a great deal of truth in it, viz., that this system has a great tendency to make the hedge grow thin below, and that it is a much better way to keep it widest at the base and let it gradually taper to a point at the top. I have certainly seen hedges managed in this way present a beautifully close surface, which I attribute to the plan of allowing a much greater number of shoots to reach the outside. Hedges kept square are very apt, when old, to get "blanky," and grow bare near the ground, even though the top may be quite thick and flourishing. In this case there is no remedy but cutting down, always a disagreeable necessity, for then all shelter is gone at once, whereas this would very seldom be necessary if the hedge was kept in a pyramidal shape, for then there would always be plenty of shoots close to the ground equally young and growing as those at the top.

GRASS.

The following is condensed from the excellent address of Gov. Wright, of Indiana, at the recent New-York State Agricultural Exhibition:

After some general remarks on the relation of man to the earth, the honorable character of agricultural labor, and the general order of creation, Gov. Wright proceeded to speak of grass, as having received far less than its proper share of attention. No crop, he said, approaches so near a spontaneous yield, and none yields so large a profit. The hay crop of the United States in 1850 was over 13,000,000 tuns; that for 1855 he estimated at 15,000,000, which was worth $150-000,000, while the whole cotton crop is valued at only $128,000,000. Of this crop more than one-half is produced by the four States, New-York, (which yields one-fourth of the whole,) Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. The grass crop, which is used for pasturing, is at least as valuable; so that this single herb is worth annually over three hundred millions of dollars.

The qualities of grass vary with different latitudes—some being adapted to wet, others to dry soils—some being more nutritious than others, particular kinds being specially adapted to the production of milk, and others again being mainly useful for fattening cattle. Like all other vegetable and animal products, grass is susceptible of improvement by culture, and will repay a much greater degree of care than is usually bestowed upon it. There are 215 kinds of grasses cultivated in Great Britian; probably half that number might be found growing spontaneously in this country. In France the meadows and pastures constitute about one-seventh of the cultivated lands; in England three-fourths; in the United States they do not probably exceed one-third in the best grazing States, and one-eight in the others. Much land is abandoned to weeds which might profitably be devoted to the culture of grass. Wherever there is a large supply of lime in the soil, and a clay subsoil, grass will grow luxuriantly. The silurian hills on the borders of our western waters, and the mountain limestone regions are also well adapted to its growth, while they can not compete with the sandstone and drift formations in the cultivation of wheat and other cereal grains. With proper attention those districts adapted to the growth of grass might become the wealthiest portions of the Republic.

We shall always find superior stock in those districts where the cultivation of grass is most carefully followed. This is clearly proved by the examples of Great Britain and Holland, as well as Jamaica, where the cultivation of a single kind of grass has increased beyond computation the value of the trade and commerce of the island. Blue grass has done for Kentucky what turnips have done for Flanders, and portions of England and Scotland—not only arrested the old process, but restored the soil, and brought large profits to graziers. Along the banks of the Merrimac, grass that fifty years ago was considered a great evil, has within the last twenty years been regarded as equal if not superior to any other variety for hay. Similar favorable changes have been made in the south, and in every portion of the country where the attention of agriculturists has been directed to the subject. Some persons are active in the introduction of foreign grasses; but our indigenous grasses should first receive attention. We have an immense variety of which the great mass of our farmers are as yet almost wholly ignorant. The alarm that prevails upon the occurrence of drouth, of early frost, or of anything that threatens particular crops, shows the importance of studying carefully the adaption of particular crops to special soils, and of modifying our mode of culture to each emergency. Man has a great many foes to contend with in the destructive agencies of nature, and it is only by study and care that his labor can be made the most productive. We need more general attention to farming, less collection of people in cities and villages and more scientific devotion to agricultural pursuits. According to the census of 1850, one-eight of our entire population live in cities whose population is over ten thousand; and at least one-fifth of the population are residing in towns, villages and cities. Taking into view the extent of our territory, the sparseness of our population to the square mile, the cheapness and fertility of our lands, and the facilities for exchanging all commodities, and productions of skill and industry, the history of the world shows no instance in which the people of a civilized nation exhibited such a preference for city and village life. When our population shall have become two hundred millions, one-half of the people will be crowded in cities, towns and villages—unless the popular sentiment of the nation, after overcoming the general aversion to manual labor, and subduing the hot thirst for professional and mercantile pursuits, shall awaken in the American mind a strong love for rural life. One great object of Agricultural Societies is to incite a love for agricultural pursuits and diffuse a knowledge of valuable scientific truths among agricultural communities.

Bread from Grown Wheat.—For the benefit of our neighbors who have sprouted wheat, and also a mercy to the miller, please insert in your paper the following recipe for making bread from grown wheat:

Place the flour in a pan under the stove, or where it may become hot and keep so for five or six hours, until thoroughly dried through. Knead the dough harder by working in more flour, and bake slower and longer, so as to dry out the moisture, and you will have light, dry, white bread. A little alum will improve it, if the wheat was badly sprouted. H. J. C.

[We have seen samples of bread, made from new, grown wheat, according to the above recipe. The bread was free from clammy moisture, and of good quality.]

CORN-CARRYING ON THE RUSSIAN STEPPES.

In order to judge at what cost the most important of those exports are thus brought, and in order to enable an inquirer to predict with any approach to certainty what could be done under the pressure of the most extraordinary temptation from without, let us leave the sharp stones, deep mud, or clouds of dust of Odessa, and examine the tracts along which those long line of bullock wagons come creeking from more northerly directions. I have said that a vast belt of Steppe girdles this coast. We are upon a Steppe. The prevailing color, as far as the eye can reach over the immense plain, is a scorched brown. The intense heat and drouth have reduced the Steppe to this condition, and far beyond the horizon line, and away, verst upon verst, is the same dreary looking and apparently waste expanse. Not that it is all flat—hills, barren and rugged, diversify the line, and add to its difficulties, in dry weather considerably, in wet incalculably. For look at the ground on which you stand. You are on one of the roads, as they are termed. Elsewhere, a road, good or bad, means something which has been *made*—a line, upon which has been gathered material for binding and clasping, and below which there is some kind of draining; bad or good, the road is, as compared with the adjacent land, dry, compact and elastic. Dismiss all such ideas from your mind, or rather drag your limbs for an hour behind that corn-wagon, and such ideas will disappear of themselves. Dead and helpless seems that wo-begone track, creaking and drawling over which comes the bullock wagon—all wood, and built precisely as wagons were built a thousand years ago. The driver sits in front, occasionally lashing the gray bullocks more by way of form than with any idea of hastening them, and his massy beard hangs down over a species of censor, whence arise fumes of an unsavory kind. But it is not in luxury, or in imitation of his eastern neighbors, that the peasant keeps this odor-breathing vessel under his nose—the contents are an abominable mixture for greasing the wheels of his wagon, and by which you may trace it through many a yard of tainted air. Why he has placed the reeking vessel between his legs I know not, unless it be to remind himself more forcibly of the necessity of an operation, without the incessant performance of which his clumsily built cart would be on fire in four places at once. Contrast this wretched machine with the well contrived, iron mounted cart of the German colonist, a few miles hence. But on goes the wagoner, jolting and creaking along the unhelpful soil, and singing some of those old airs in which, rude as they are, there is some melody, or saying prayers to one or other of the multifarious national saints. On he goes, and so he and his predecessors have gone since corn was grown in Russia. Ricketty carts, knotted rope harness, drowsy bullock, wretched roads—so crawls the loaf toward the Englishman's table.—S. Brooks, a Year in Russia.

Nature is limited, but fancy is boundless.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

The following from the Farm Journal corresponds with what we have expressed in an article in the Times, especially that part of it which refers to agricultural exhibitions degenerating into horse races and rarce shows. The Journal says: Many of our County Exhibitions the present season, and the State one at Harrisburg may be included, have not come up to the expected standard, either in a financial point of view, or the number and variety of contributions. There has been an evident falling off, in a general way, from last year, the cause of which should be examined. No one can question the advantage to the farming community, in many respects, of these annual gatherings. Farmers having their business and residences often many miles apart have not the same conveniences as merchants, manufacturers, or mechanics, for frequent intercourse and transaction of business. They have no common place of meeting or change. Hence agricultural exhibitions are useful in bringing them together, enabling them to see and compare, from year to year, the improvements in stock, implements, new seeds or productions, &c., and if they are firmly established on a permanent and suitable basis, there can be but little doubt they will exercise a very beneficial influence on agriculture. We dislike, however, to see them languish or drag heavily along, to see them barely paying expenses, and to do this at all making it necessary for the recipients of premiums paltry as they often are, to relinquish them for the "*good*" of the Society, and to have such persons held up as examples of patriotism for others to imitate. We have regretted there should ever be a necessity for this, and also that to keep up an interest or excitement and draw a crowd, it has been thought advisable or necessary to introduce the race course as a regular feature of the occasion; also equestrianism by ladies, baby shows, as has been done in Ohio, and other additions *a la showman*. From what we have seen outside as well as inside of the grounds the present season, we fear these agricultural festivals are rapidly losing their original character and design, and degenerating into occasions for dissipation, horce racing, intemperance, &c., and that we shall ere long have them accompanied from county to county by menagerie exhibitions, circus riding, jugglers, infant drummers, &c., *et id omne genus*.

No one can fail to perceive that more attention is given already to the *course* than to an examination of the improved stock, vegetable productions, or new implements. The question of who has raised the best crop and variety of wheat or corn, exhibited the best specimens of cattle, sheep or swine, is not thought so important as who has the *fastest horse*.

It seems to us the entering wedge is already made for these exhibitions to change their character, and that it is well worthy considering how they can be maintained on their original intention. Must they be repeated at less frequent intervals, must they lose their original character, or had they better be abandoned?

We recollect being present, some years ago, when Nicholas Biddle, at the close of a capital agricultural address, remarked that the world was governed by three boxes—the cartridge box, the ballot box, and the band box, *force*, *reason* and *affection*. We thought at the time one kind of box was omitted—*the money box*. Despicable as money may be *in the abstract*, still, in these fast times, it is the Archimidean lever which moves the world, builds churches, school houses, railroads, makes peace and war, gives energy to every effort, is the *aim* of all human pursuit, buys Durham stock, reaping machines, and we say it in a whisper, hoping no one will repeat it, *even controls elections*. People generally will not work for philanthropy or patriotism solely, but for their pecuniary advantage; and we believe that unless some advantage results pecuniarily to exhibitors from these annual displays, they will not continue their contributions, and the exhibitions themselves consequently drop. Believing they have been and may be highly useful, this to us would be a matter of great regret. Our idea is, that in any section where an agricultural society *flourishes*, there will be enough public spirit to raise a permanent fund by donation or liberal subscriptions, the *income* of which should be appropriated as one object at least, to sustain the character of the annual exhibitions, and especially to increase the amount of premiums. Make these large enough to answer the object of *remuneration*, and thus excite competition. This is the design and meaning of a *premium*, which should indicate reward for excellence or success in any department, but in nine cases out of ten, to the recipient it now involves a real loss. Take, for instance, the premium offered for a display of vegetables, which varies from two to five dollars at the outside in most county societies' schedules. They are raised with considerable expense of extra labor and manure, and would bring eight or ten dollars in market, but remain at the exhibition for two or three days until they become worthless. What advantage is a premium to such an exhibitor? or a diploma. So with a fine cow which the owner may drive from five to fifteen miles, and run the risk of a two or three dollar premium or diploma. We have had cows which did not recover from the change of keep, fatigue of the journey, &c., for several weeks, and fell off in their yield of butter two or three pounds per week in consequence. We never could calculate that the two or three dollar premium was a compensation, but that we were an actual sufferer by the operation. The same reasoning may be applied to almost any articles usually exhibited. The premiums are not generally large enough to pay. This appears to us the great secret, and unless there is some method to make them more worthy of serious effort and competition, we fear many of our old county societies will be unable to continue the interest in them by the public.

Can not the same plan be pursued as with many of our institutions of learning, which, by endowment, bequest, or donation, have a permanent fund for their support independent of their regular receipts. Several farms have been recently offered for the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania; can not the same public spirit be directed to the permanent establishment of our county agricultural societies? In England premiums are made large enough to be highly and directly remunerative. They are made worth striving for, and this is the key to their success. Ten, twenty, fifty, or one hundred dollars, for a good animal, a fine crop, a valuable implement, is an object. Premiums there deserve their name, and if they could be made to partake of the same character here, we should find no necessity for bringing in extrinsic objects to attract attention and draw a crowd.

At the late exhibition of the United States Agricultural Society at Boston, a fund was raised of $20,000 for the occasion. Every one knew beforehand this was equal to an insurance of success.

EATING AND SLEEPING.

Eating too Much.—What countless thousands it puts into the doctor's pockets, furnishes his splendid mansion in Union-square and Fifth-avenue, enables him to "sport his carriage," to own a villa on the banks of the Hudson, and live in style to the end of the chapter!

"*I can't help it*," says the poor unfortunate milk-and-water individual, who never had decision enough to do a deed worthy of remembrance an hour later. My wishey-washey friend, suppose I help you to avoid making a beast of yourself.

Have two articles of food sent to your room, besides bread and butter, with half a glass of cold water. I will give you permission to eat as much as you want, thus, thrice a day. Or if you prefer eating with company, you may safely sit down to the "*best table*" in the land, if you have manhood enough to partake of but any two articles. *It is the variety of our food which brutifies us.*

Don't Sleep Well.—Since the *fullest* amount of sleep is as essential to the healthful working of mind and body as necessary food, it may be well to know how to secure it, as a general rule.

1. Clarify your conscience.

2. Take nothing later than two o'clock, P. M., except some bread and butter, and a small cup of weak tea of any kind, or half a glass of water, for supper.

3. Go to bed at some regular early hour. Get up the moment you wake of yourself, even if at midnight.

4. Do not sleep an instant in the day time.

Unless your body is in a condition to require special medical advice, nature will regulate your sleep to the wants of the system, in less than a month; and you will not only go to sleep at once, but will sleep soundly. "*Second naps*" and siestas make the mischief.—Hall's Jour. of Health.

A GERMAN AGRICULTURAL FAIR.

The following familiar description of an Agricultural Exhibition held last year at a little German City, called Hamburg, is furnished to the Homestead by our friend and correspondent Mason C. Weld. The manner of conducting the exercises, especially at the after-dinner meeting, may give a hint or two to the managers of similar Societies in this country:

To give an idea of the appearance of this or any other old European town, is quite beyond the ability of my pen, but well do I remember the crooked streets of funny old houses, with their stacks of chimneys and pipes, with their old odd ornaments and pictures of saints and virgins, their projecting roofs and stories over-hanging each the one below—well remembered too are the crowds in the streets and in the hotels; and, by the way, no sight in the world is jollier than a German tavern guest-room, *full.* One sees the good, honest, intelligent faces of sturdy farmers, glowing with good nature and good health, earnestly discussing something or nothing over their beer, while volumes of smoke rolling up from each one wreathe and curl for a moment before blending with the hazy atmosphere. Everybody seems to say, "It's our holyday, and we are enjoying it."

On the way to the cattle show we passed through the public square before the Town Hall. Around this are grouped the most distinguished buildings, the ancient glories of the town. The square is small and paved throughout with cobble stones, and near the center is the fountain, which answers the purpose of a town-pump. Upon an ornamented stone shaft, rising some 12 feet from a basin some 16 feet in diameter, are six platter-faced lion heads, from their mouths proceed the same number of gunbarrels, and from them flow oilyly, streams of water, which fall without breaking their round glassy form within the basin, between two stout iron rods which serve to sit tubs and pails upon for filling. The basin is of hewn stone and looks as if it were made 1,000 years ago.

Arrived at the cattle show, we found people all expectation and waiting for the procession and the music—for nothing goes well without a band of music—but in the meantime I devoted myself to the cattle and horses, sheep and swine.

The cattle of this part of the country are of two distinct breeds, the one a large-boned, heavy, slow-maturing, very large breed—the other, smaller, more delicate in structure, quicker in arriving at maturity, good fleshed and altogether very nice and serviceable. The color of these breeds is similar, of a yellowish dun; in the larger, the "Donnersberg," it inclines to very light, and in the other, the "Glahn," to darker dun; being uniform all over each animal, except the muzzle is always white, and the belly lighter than the back.

I was particularly pleased with the "Glahn" breed—the more so from the fact that it is a natural one and of course the more likely to improve by careful breeding. Many of the animals exhibited had points of great beauty; and it is said that they show annually improvement. The government shows a commendable interest in these things, providing veterinary schools where at small expense young men may become skilled both as cattle doctors and as judges of cattle, horses, etc., and then by settling in various places, upon moderate salaries, such as pass satisfactory examinations; each having care of a certain district, all the male breeding animals in the country come more or less under govermental supervision. In each village one or more approved bulls are kept, their owners being paid by government. The same arrangement to a certain extent is followed in regard to horses also. The veterinary physicians exercise a controling influence in these agricultural gatherings, and have, so far as my observation went, the entire confidence of the farmers.

But to return to the cattle show. There is among the uniformed *Bauers* a strong tendency to cross these two breeds, and this crossing does not improve the "Glahn," though it does the "Donnersberg"; it has fortunately met with a check or the time would soon come when no pure Glahn blood could be found. Among the cattle were also a number of specimens of the large lowland Swiss breed. This breed is better known than the other two—in color, dark red pied; of very large stature, though not coarse. Those which I saw could hardly be regarded as well bred animals, yet they had much more the appearance of it than either of the other breeds. No one of them would suit our taste as to looks, though the Glahn and the Swiss are said to be superior beef breeds.

There were some fine horses of the breed called "Zweibraecken." These are by no means thoroughbreds, but probably crossed years back with blood horses, yet are good roadsters, and great numbers are annually exported to France. One hears, here and there, all over central Europe, of districts embracing only a few villages, where there are peculiar and superior breeds of horses, having no pretension to high blood. I have heard it suggested that this may be accounted for by the wars that have raged over the land in years past, when many a fine steed ran masterless, and becoming the property of the inhabitants, has improved the stock in the region.

There were some imported English swine whose bare, cylindrical bodies, small legs and turn-up noses, contrasted strongly with the bristly case-knife breed of the region, and attracted more attention than any other part of the show.

After the committees had viewed and reviewed the stock I was introduced to some of the chief men of the Society, and soon we all marched down to the town hall, flags flying and music playing. Here was an exhibition of fruits, vegetables, and manufactures; and it contained not much of interest. After dinner a meeting was held, at which addresses were made, and an account taken of the yield of the harvests in the various districts represented. There were generally some two or three leading men from each town personally called upon to state the average crop of wheat, of rye, oats, potatoes, beets, etc., respectively, and then a statement was prepared, and one agreed to by them was recorded; the towns being divided into classes, upland, lowland towns, etc. Thus all the circumstances of weather, changes and faults of practice or extensive improvements are taken note of and recorded. There were several papers read upon such subjects as the potato rot—introduction of new crops, etc. I was very much interested in the meeting.

The afternoon was given up to popular sports, climbing greased poles, running foot races, and a number of sports less known among us. One was this—a car upon an inclined track ran beneath a pail of water from which a ring was so suspended, that if a person riding in the car and holding a spear could thrust it through the ring, it was all right, but if he failed the water dashed all over him. Another was a novel race run by women and girls, each carrying on their heads a tub filled to the brim and holding some 6 gallons of water. They were obliged to stop if a drop of water spilt over. They ran some dozen rods to reach a cord upon which were suspended articles of wearing apparel, from among which they could take their choice. Some of these girls ran with great celerity, the surface of the water hardly showing a ripple: others were not so fortunate. These sports were not contrived nor controled by the Society but by the town—instituted in order to draw a larger crowd.

These assemblages differ from similar ones in this country in the sociableness of those assembled. The two or three hours spent in the wine or beer cellars are more attractive to most who come, than the cattle show. Appointments for meetings at such a time for friendly social intercourse are made by friends and acquaintances living in different towns, and it does one's heart good to see these groups of friends in the hotels and breweries. It was a satisfaction to see that the indulgence of their appetites was carried to nothing like excess or rioting, as I fear it would have been if nervous Yankees instead of Germans had been thus assembled.

SAWDUST FOR BEDDING.

During a short sojourn in Ohio, we visited most of the livery stables, and found that the only bedding in use was sawdust. The proprietors of each stable all testified that it was far superior to straw or hay; and in these times of scarcity, it must in certain localities, be more economical. Without doubt, sawdust absorbs a large amount of urine, and also its ammoniacal gasses; preventing the one from saturating the stable floor, and the latter from deteriorating the stable atmosphere.

Sawdust occupies less bulk than straw, and, at the same time, affords as soft a bed; the filthy can readily be separated from that which is still useful, and with the admixture of a fair proportion of excrement, forms a valuable fertilizer. Some persons, however, may object to the use of sawdust, on account of its absorbent properties, which acting on the horse's hoofs may tend to render them dry and brittle, and utterly impair the function of the same.

Should this be the case, we have only to stuff the hoofs with moist clay, or even wash them a little oftener, and the evil, if it exists, can be remedied.

One half the stable keepers in New-England and elsewhere, have during the past year, been sorely puzzled to provide sufficient bedding; and unless some better and cheaper material turns up, we would advise the interested to try sawdust. Perhaps the addition of a few shavings might be advantageous; but, try *sawdust*.—Am. Veterinary Jour.

"THE BEASTS THAT PERISH."

We mean, good reader, those old cows and oxen—yours perchance—destined to die of cold and starvation, somewhere between the 10th of March and the 10th of April, 1856, "poor and very ill favored, and lean fleshed," such as Pharoah dreamed of, but "never saw in all the land of Egypt for badness." We are neither a Prophet, nor the son of a Prophet; but judging by the past, we have a distinct foreseeing of what will surely come to pass, as to these said lean kine.

In the first place they will do what they did, in Pharoah's dream; they will eat up the fat kine. That's their mission and their revenge. Whatever of profit your generous milkers and well fatted oxen may have yielded, will surely be swallowed up in this most unthrifty trade of murrain hides. It is a trade that can not by possibility be made to pay expenses. Even the farmer who discharged his overseer, because the result of his year's management show a falling off in this source of income, we have reason to believe made no gain by such sagacious policy.

Apart from any consideration of profit, surely no man, much less one who calls himself a christian, will distinctly anticipate and realise, the misery, and slow pining wretchedness of the helpless brutes he has charge of, without taking prompt and efficient measures to guard against it. It is for this reason, we call attention to the matter now. Now is the time to prevent it, because now it can be readily done. There is no difficulty about it, if taken in time.

Overlook your stock and your means of support, and determine what proportion you have the amplest provision for, through the winter and spring. All supernumeraries, either sell to your neighbor who may want, or begin at once to fatten for the butcher, and get rid of before Christmas.

For those that remain, have not only good and sufficient food, but houses or sheds, and dry beds. Food is not sufficient without protection from the weather. High feeding will compensate in a measure for exposure, but it is very wasteful management. Every animal should have *at least* the protection of a shed, closed on three sides. Cattle winter better perhaps in such sheds than in closer houses, but only because of the difficulty of ventilating the latter. The warmer an animal can be kept, the more economically can he be fed, other things being equal; *but clean wholesome air is as necessary as food.* The master should go to bed on a stormy night, with the comfortable reflection that every beast dependant upon him, is as comfortable as himself. Such management will break up the whole trade in murrain hides, but it will be a profitable loss, and one that the farming community can well afford.—American Farmer.

A SIMPLE WAY TO GROW MUSHROONS.

It is a wonder there are not more mushrooms grown artificially than there are. They are not much trouble, and every body likes them. We notice in Mr. A. M. Strong's gardener, George Wigance, has turned his early hot beds into a good use, which is, that he spawned them, and has now a fine lot of mushroons showing themselves. The following is the method pursued: Some time in August, after the melons or cucumbers die off, the soil is nicely leveled down, and compressed by treading or otherwise, as closely as possible. For this the soil should be moist, but not wet. It is now ready for spawning, a material obtained generally through seedsmen, but which can be made at home, containing the germs, or as it is familiarly termed, the *spawn* of the mushroom. It is usually in the shape of brick, and before using requires to be broken up in pieces about one inch square. Holes are then made in the soil six or nine inches apart and one of these pieces placed in each hole, with from one to two inches of soil over them. It is again leveled and pressed with the back of a spade, and a pretty good soaking of water given. The lights are then placed on, and well covered, with some material to exclude the heat, to assist which it is necessary to keep this covering occasionally sprinkled with water in very hot sunshine. No air should be given during the day, but a little should be left on at night. No water should be given at any time after, except when the bed is getting quite dry. The more uniformly moist the bed can be kept, without too frequent application, the better will be the result.

The principal difficulty to be encountered, when grown as mentioned above, is, that during the latter days of summer the sun is often very hot, and without considerable care the inside would be apt to get at much too high a temperature. Perhaps for the uninitiated it would be better to make one in the open air, for which it is necessary to prepare a considerable quantity of short horse-manure, the less straw with it the better. Previous to using, this has to be turned two or three times, to get rid of the first violent fermentation. It is then to be built up into a heap nearly triangular, any desired length, with its base some four feet wide. It requires to be pressed together as closely as possible. In about a week, more or less according to the state of the manure, requiring only to be just warm, it should be spawned as mentioned above, and a coating of two inches of soil, (loamy is best,) spread evenly over the whole surface and well pressed down with the spade, using a little water to well plaster the same into a compact mass. Sprinkle over a thin coat of straw, thicker when frosts commence, and the work is done. If built in a cellar, it would furnish mushroons for several months.—E. S., in Country Gentleman.

WILLOW CULTURE.

Mr. M. D. Earnest, writing under date of Macedonia Depot, Summit County, Ohio, to the Ohio Farmer says: Last April I bought of Geo. J. Colby of Vt., 50,000 willow cuttings. We got through striking them the 15th of May, and now many of the sprouts are six feet long, and all will average about four feet. They will pay well this year, if there should be sale for the cuttings. My ground was only plowed, for the wet weather commenced before I knew that I should obtain any cuttings, but we were particular to put the cuttings clear through the sod, into the soil below, and only a few of them failed to grow. The best time to prepare the ground is in the fall, for most of the land, that is suitable for the willow, is too wet to till in the spring, early enough. It takes about three days' work to stick an acre with the cuttings, it should be done early in the spring, before other work commences, so that it can be done well without costing too much per acre.

From what I know of the willow trade and the cultivation of the willow, there is no doubt, in my mind, that farmers will find it very lucrative to grow them. Most every farmer has some land on which nothing but trash grows, which is just the land for the willow.

Buckwheat Porridge.—Take a quart of rich milk, and after boiling it hard, stir in as much buckwheat meal as will make it of the consistency of thick mush, adding one teaspoonful of salt and a table-spoonful of fresh butter. In five minutes after it is thick enough take it from the fire. If the milk is boiling hard and continues to boil while the meal is being stirred in, very little more cooking will be required. It should be placed on the table *hot*, and eaten with butter and sugar, or with molasses and butter. This is sometimes called a five minute pudding; it is excellent for children as a plain dessert, or for supper. Some add a seasoning of ginger or grated nutmeg before sending it to the table.

Pudding Unique.—A quarter of a pound of raw potatoes, scraped; a quarter pound of raw carrots, scraped; a quarter pound of currants, and the same quantity each of suet, chopped fine, and flour; a little salt and allspice. Mix all these well together, and make it the consistence of a pudding for boiling, by stirring in molasses; about two tablespoonfuls will be enough, or it may require rather more. This should be put into a greased pudding mold, and boiled two hours. It may be served up either with or without sweet sauce.

No man has a thorough taste of prosperity, to whom adversity never happened.

FROM MINNESOTA.

We are kindly permitted to make a few extracts from a private letter to a friend in this city, from St. Anthony Falls, Minnesota, which briefly convey an intelligent idea as to the condition of this new country. After mentioning that he had been on a summer tour through most of the Minnesotean wilds, the writer says:

" * * * The absence of the usual rise in the river has retarded the growth of the territory to a considerable extent this year, and many have found themselves on a "wild goose chase" who had anticipated something of a flourishing business. We were to do *this* and *that*, "when the logs come down;" but they didn't come, and hence many of the *this's* and *that's* remain undone. Money has been worth five per cent a month some part of the season, and will probably command three per cent a month for some time to come. Notwithstanding this extraordinary lack of the great lever that moves the world, we have plenty to eat, and the wherewithal to hide our nudity.

" * * * One great curse to a new country has found room to spread on this—the east —side of the Mississippi, and that is, the sale of the public lands to other than actual settlers. While much of our side of El Rio is comparatively in a state of nature, with few of those accompaniments of civilization that are inviting to the New-England emigrant, the west side is being rapidly filled up by *bona fide* settlers, who build school-houses, churches, and otherwise environ themselves with the belongings of their old Yankee home. The residents—other than speculators—of a new country, have good reason to denounce that system of disposal of our public lands which permits any but actual residents to become owners of the public domain. Help us, therefore, to enact the Homestead bill—for, as the old song says,

"Uncle Sam is rich enough to give us all a farm."

[Accompanying this letter was a very beautiful daguerreotype view of St. Anthony Falls, in which connection the writer proceeds to say:]

" We have, in this far-off wilderness, some of the most beautiful natural scenery that ever eyes beheld. I have none of those views which I consider the most picturesque, or that are remarkable for their majestic grandeur, but send you the view immediately in front of my door, from which you see the falls of St. Anthony proper, (there being a small fall, on the eastern shore, which is separated from the main one by two islands,) with the islands, the suspension bridge—with its span of 600 feet—the river, and the miniature city of Minneapolis on the western shore. But the scenery is altogether a secondary inducement, in my estimation, for immigration to this region. The climate is so uniform that pulmonary complaints are successfully treated—in my case entirely eradicated—while more fertile soil can not be found under the convex ethereal expanse.

I was much interested with the paper you sent me—the American Agriculturist—and think it should be in the hands of every farmer throughout the land. * * * "

WINTER PARSLEY.

Our neighbor, Mr. Wm. Saunders, offers the following valuable hints on winter parsley. This useful herb is much in demand in the culinary department, especially is it so during winter when everything *green* is at a premium. A good supply may be had by planting a glassed frame and protecting it from severe frosts. Those who have the convenience of a greenhouse or grapery, will find the following a desirable method of cultivating a sufficient quantity of roots.

Procure an old flour barrel and pierce the sides of it with holes 1 inch in diameter and about 9 inches apart. Three or more holes should also be made in the bottom for the escape of water. Prepare a quantity of light loamy soil, mixed with a portion of well rotted manure or decayed leaves, and commence filling the barrel by placing three inches of oyster shells, or any other convenient material for drainage; over this place a turf to prevent the earthy particles from mixing with it. Then fill in enough soil to bring a level with the first circle of holes, draw the roots of the plants through from the outside, all but the tops. Proceed in a similar manner until the barrel is filled; then plant the top. When finely grown it is an ornamental object, as well as a useful one. Although an old system, I had never seen it practised, and my first attempt was almost a failure. I found a difficulty in keeping the soil properly moistened, on account of the numerous holes on the sides through which the water escaped without penetrating to the center. This I remedied by building a perpendicular drain in the center of the barrel. Having provided a quantity of small pieces of brick, and charcoal I placed a cylindrical tin tube (an old quart measure minus the handle and bottom) in the center on top of the drainage, and filled it with these materials, drawing it up and filling again as the planting proceeded. This had the desired effect, and allowed an equal distribution of moisture through the soil.

Young plants raised from seed the preceding spring are best; secure all the roots and trim in the leaves close when planted. The stronger and more luxuriant the plants are before winter the better will be the supply. The month of September will be early enough to plant, and the barrel should be kept fully exposed and regularly watered until taken into the house before frost.—Hort.

"Some Squash."—Mr. Warren Webster, of Gowanda, Cattaraugus county, planted this season, one squash seed, the products of which were: 2 vines and branches, 272 feet in length; 2 do. do., 128 do.; 1 do. do., 245 do.; 1 do. do., 240 do.; 1 do. do., 43 do.; total length, 928 feet. From the above vines were gathered 20 squashes, weighing 828 lbs. The vines and squashes were exhibited at the late fair in that county, and filled a lumber wagon box. We have heard of "some pumpkins," but squash is about a "neck ahead."

Knowledge is the treasure, but judgment the treasurer, of a wise man.

STAGGERS IN HORSES.

As is usual at this season of the year, we continue to see and hear much of a disease peculiar to horses during the end of July, August, and early part of September. The affected animals are first of all observed to be weak in the back; in a day or two more they reel greatly with the hind parts, and seem in danger of falling; they are disinclined to lie down, apparently from fear of being unable to rise, and in bad cases there is considerable dulness of countenance, also a partial loss of voluntary power in the fore legs. In the majority of instances, however, the loins and hind legs are almost exclusively effected. The appetite is little impaired, for some days after the complaint has become confirmed; the bowels are rather confined, but there is not any disturbance of respiration, and the pulse, although sometimes fuller than natural, is seldom much quickened. The disease is rarely fatal when proper treatment is employed; in neglected or mistreated cases, however, the brain becomes congested, the animals are unable to stand, get down, grow restless, feverish, and not unfrequently die. The disease is almost exclusively confined to horses which are fed on ripe, green food, such as seeding rye-grass, vetches in full pod, or old rank meadow grass. We have known nine horses on one farm effected at once, while they were feeding on ripe rye-grass, but three other horses standing in the same stable, and fed on other food, remained well. Some persons suppose the disease due to atmospheric influences; this has never been proved as yet, and we know, on the other hand, that change of food will cure or prevent the disease, although atmospheric influences may remain apparently the same. The treatment must be commenced by a complete change from food the animals have been eating, to simple bran diet, and small quantities of good hay. A full dose of aloes must be administered, and tepid water is to be supplied until this has operated. When the medicine has *set*, half ounce doses of sulphate of iron and ginger may be given twice daily. Along with this medicine the horse may take half bran and half oats till the staggering subsides. No bleeding is needed.—North British Agriculturist.

A Few Preserves.—As most of our readers know, we do not approve of metalic cans for fruit. There is always danger of such cans being acted upon by the acids produced in fruits, however preserved, and the compounds thus formed are generally of a poisonous character. We give, from a Cincinnati paper, the following items, simply to show what is being done in that city:

" At least half of all the housekeepers, in both town and country, have *canned* peaches this summer, and not only peaches, but other fruits and vegetables. We know of one house which has sold 200,000 cans. There are a great many varieties of cans in market, and immense quantities sold. We suppose that 600,000 cans of fruits and vegetables have been put up in Cincinnati and vicinity.

These will hold about 50,000 bushels, of which 40,000 are peaches.

"These cans will average at least 10 cents each, or $100 per 1,000, or in all $60,000 for cans alone. The peaches cost $60,000 also, and the sugar for syrup $20,000! Thus we find the cost for canned fruit to be about $140,000! It will require at least 250 acres of peach orchards to supply the demand for canning fruit! This is for the Miami country only; and if we examine the facts attentively, we shall see that the demand for fruit and the profit upon it will continue for many years."

HOW MRS. SMITH MAKES WHEAT BREAD.

Mrs. Elliot Smith, of Norway, received a premium at the Agricultural Fair for the best specimen of Wheat Bread. The following is her process for making it:

"One third of a tablespoonful of dry powdered hop yeast was soaked in a tea cup full of milk, 20 minutes, to this one-sixth of a teaspoonful of dry saleratus was added. This was mixed with two-thirds of a quart of new milk, and a sufficient quantity of flour was stirred in, but not molded. It was then left to rise sufficiently for baking, when one tablespoonful of solution of saleratus was well stirred in. It was then baked in a brick oven one hour and fifteen minutes."

How to Make No-Matters.—This is an article of food, which has for many years been confined to the descendants of a single family of this town. Its excellence will commend it to the attention of those housewives who wish to make a good display of culinary skill upon their tables, at the same time having a due regard to economy. The lady who furnishes the recipe has given frequent opportunities of tasting their delicious flavor; and if any are inquisitive, perhaps she might be induced to inform them how the cakes obtained their homely name.

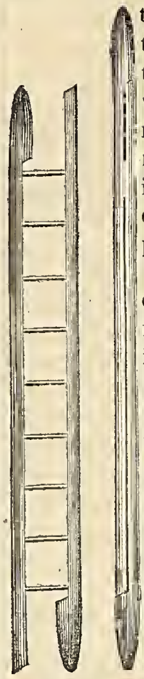
"To three teacupfuls of buttermilk add three tablespoonfuls of rich cream and a small quantity of sugar. Stir in flour until it is of a consistency of paste for dough-nuts. Roll out the size of a large breakfast plate, and fry in lard to a rich brown color.

As each cake comes from the fire, cover with apple-sauce made from tart apples sweetened to taste, and spiced with nutmeg or cinnamon, and continue the process till the plate is well heaped."

To Drive away Ants.—A foreign journal recommends chopping garlic finely, and laying it in their usual paths and about their usual haunts. The plan is said to be successfully adopted in the south of Europe. It may be a very good one for those who would not be more offended by the garlic odor than by a whole regiment of ants.

Sealing-wax for Cans.—A very good sealing-wax is made by melting and stirring well together: one ounce of Venice turpentine, four ounces common resin, and six ounces of gum shellac. A beautiful red color may be given by adding one quarter of an ounce, or less of vermillion.

THE FOLDING LADDER.



It often happens that some of the most convenient implements are little known, simply because the inventors, or owners of the patents, do not belong to that class of persons who have the "faculty" of getting their wares into notice. We could name fifty agricultural implements, which perhaps not one in ten of the farmers of this country have ever seen—and perhaps have not heard of.

Here, for instance, is the cut of a folding ladder—a simple implement, and very convenient to have about every house. One part of the cut shows the ladder opened for use, while the other gives its appearance when closed. The ends of the rounds are encased in a strong brass or iron ferule, through which an iron pivot passes. A groove is made on the inside of the upright side-pieces, so that when one of these is raised up the rounds turn upon pins in each end, and close into the grooves, and the ladder then occupies no more space than a single round pole, which can be set aside in a corner or other convenient place.

A literary friend saw one of these not long since, for the first time, and immediately ordered it for his library-room, to use in getting up to the higher book shelves. When not in use it is set in the corner behind the book case, and is nearly out of sight.

These ladders are very strong, as they are made of white birch, and are so light that a child can handle them, and are usually painted blue or green so as to have a neat appearance. They are made of various lengths and are sold at about 25 cents for each foot in hight.

Toothache Remedy.—The Dublin Hospital Gazette states that diseased teeth have been rendered insensible to pain by a cement composed of Canada Balsam and slacked lime, which is to be inserted in the hollow of the tooth, like a pill. It is stated that such pills afford immediate relief in all toothaches but chronic cases of inflammation. This remedy is simple, safe, and can easily be tried by any person.

Animals kept quiet, dry and warm, will require a great deal less food, and will do much more work, keep in better order, and yield much more profit than those exposed to the inclemency of the weather. Do, kind reader, remember this fact. It is unkind to starve your stock, and, what is a far more grave and potent argument, *it is unprofitable.*

Large Potatoes.—Mr. Joseph Lunt, of Oldtown, has raised this year about 1,700 bushels of potatoes, and among them are some very large blacks, *thirty-two* of the largest of which measure a bushel. This beats all potatoes we have heard of yet.

INPREGNATING AND RAISING CARNATIONS AND PINKS FROM SEED.

Persons accustomed to raise seedlings never think of saving the seed from single flowers. I should say that from such seed there would not be a moderately good flower in ten thousand. The only fault with at least two-thirds of our present varieties is, that they are too thin of petals, and will not form a good crown, which is an indispensable property in the criteria of a fine Carnation and Pink. I ask, what can look more meager than the half-double flowers?

For the information of your readers, I will detail my mode of proceeding. I select such flowers as are perpectly double. That such flowers may produce seed, it will be necessary to let every bud assume a glittering icy appearance, take any one half-expanded bloom, and tear it open, when will be seen the apices (anthers) containing the pollen, or dust; take one of these, and, if not already bust, open it, and draw it along the pistils (thread-like terminating horns) till you see some of the powder adhering to them. If this has been properly done, the bloom will close in two or three hours; and if no alteration takes place, repeat it till it does. In two or three days after impregnation has taken place, cut off all the other buds, and remove the plant to a situation where it will get plenty of sun; keep it well supplied with water, and protect the capsule (closed pod) from rain, by placing a square piece of thin board or other material upon the stick, just above it; gather the seed when ripe, and keep it in the pod in a well-corked vial. It will be also necessary to protect the pod from earwigs, which is best done by winding a little fresh sheep's wool round the stick and stem; they will not attempt to pass over it, as it entangles them.

These directions apply equally as well to Pinks, with the exception that the bloom from which the pollen is to be taken must be opened before it begins to expand, or the apices will all be burst, and the pollen gone. —Florista, in Flor. Cabinet.

To take Impressions of Leaves.—Take green leaves of trees and flowers, and lay them between the leaves of a book till they are dry. Then mix some lamp-black with drying oil, and make a small dabber of some cotton wrapped up in a piece of small leather. Lay the dry leaf flat upon a table, and dab it very gently with the mixture till the veins of the leaf are covered: being careful not to dab it so hard as to force the color between the veins. Moisten a piece of paper, or, what is better, lay a piece of paper between two sheets of moistened paper for several hours, and lay this over the leaf that has been blackened with the liquid; press it gently down, and then lay a heavy weight upon it and press it down very hard. By this means you obtain a very beautiful impression of a leaf with all its veins; even the minutest will be represented in a more perfect manner than they could be drawn with the greatest care. Impressions thus taken may also be colored in the same manner as prints.

NOTES FROM OUR FIELD-BOOK,

(At Stonington, Conn.)

Mexican vs. Peruvian Guano on Wheat, &c.

We have heard a good deal of the excellence of Mexican guano, and within a year have been entertained with an essay to prove that the true policy of the cultivator is to buy phosphate of lime in this article to apply to his lands. We have been told that the purchase of ammonia in the shape of Peruvian guano was a waste of capital. This unique and ingenious pamphlet has already been noticed in our columns, and we are now prepared to furnish the notice which mother Earth has taken, the past season, of the article in question.

A dealer in guano kindly furnished us with a bag last spring, and as he imported it on his own account, and had 400 tuns of it for sale, we presume that he sent us as good as he had, that it might give a good report of itself. It was said to be from Maria Island, and was accompanied with an analysis from Dr. Chilton, stating the proportion of its ingredients, and was advertised as an article fully equal to the best Peruvian guano. It was evidently from a climate where rain falls, was moist, and had much the appearance of stump earth. There was no odor of ammonia about it.

We selected an old corn stubble for the experiment; measured off five-eights of an acre, and on the 23d of April sowed it with Black Sea Wheat. The soil was a gravelly loam not in very good heart; so that it was in good condition to show the action of these fertilizers. One half of the piece was dressed with a bag of Peruvian guano, weighing 145 pounds, and the other half with a bag of the Maria Island guano of about the same weight. The land was well plowed, and the seed and manure worked in with the cultivator and the harrow. About a week after sowing, the whole was dressed with two horse-cart-loads of oyster-shell lime.

The seed came up well and the whole piece looked promising. As it was the first piece of wheat grown in the neighborhood for twenty years, it had the full benefit of close observation, and the whole category of wheat evils was prophesied upon it, from the blast to the wecvil.

The portion of the field dressed with Peruvian guano soon showed its superiority. The line where the dressing began was distinctly marked by a deeper green and a larger growth; and this difference was maintained up to the ripening of the grain. This part of the field was so heavy that some of it lodged. There was a larger growth of straw, longer heads, plumper kernels, and more of them. We had to reap the whole of this part of the field, while the most of the other was easily cradled. The Mexican guano was so manifestly "no where," that we did not think it worth while to accurately measure the yield of straw and grain upon each part.

The venders and chemists may speculate as they please upon the value of the guano from rainy climates; cultivators will hardly receive any speculations that are not confirmed in the laboratory of the soil. We have seen enough in our experiment to satisfy us of the economy of using Peruvian guano, where we go off of our own premises for fertilizers. If there is economy in using the other varieties, it is a problem yet to be proved.

Our experiment goes plainly to show that

WHEAT GROWING IN CONNECTICUT

is at least a possible thing. The yield of this plot of ground was ten bushels of handsome wheat, as good as the seed we sowed. We threshed it with the flail to save it for sowing, and there was at least two bushels left in the straw. Had the whole been dressed with Peruvian guano, the yield would have been twelve bushels, or at the rate of twenty-four bushels per acre. Seed wheat is now selling at $2.50 per bushel, which make $60 an acre for the grain, and the straw is worth $10 more. Seventy dollars an acre, we think, is much better than the average product of our New-England farms.

We are by no means certain that the time has not already come, when wheat can be profitably raised again in New-England; and have its regular place in our rotation of crops. We see in the discussions among the New-Hampshire farmers, that it is thought the wheat crop of that State will meet one half of the consumption of its population. Very fine crops of this grain have been gathered this season in Vermont and western Massachusetts. Western Connecticut has been growing wheat cautiously for a few years past, and all along the seaboard, from Maine to Long-Island Sound, we hear of successful experiments. Reliable authority gives the wheat crop of the single town of Southold, L. I., as twenty thousand bushels last year. It is also grown on Gardener's Island, where guano is used and fine crops are realized. The eastern demand for seed wheat, we think, will be brisk next spring.

FARMING IN HALLOWELL, MAINE.

W. P. A., in renewing his subscription for the American Agriculturist and the Times, closes his letter as follows:

As a general thing, there are nothing but ordinary, and I might almost say shiftless, farmers in this section of the country. They cultivate, by a vast quantity, more land than they can cultivate properly. They have but little fertilizing matter, and that they spread over a large space of ground, and the consequence is they get but poorly remunerated for their trouble; whereas, if they would put it upon half, or even one-fourth of the space, they would probably get as much, with far less labor. Too many are contented to just get crops enough to keep them alive, and a little more, and when their farms run out and they get discouraged, they pull up stakes and are off for some more productive quarter, even to the far west. Thus it is that Maine becomes depopulated thro' neglect or a want of careful, thorough tillage. We have as good land here in Maine as any where, and if farmers would only study the nature of their soils, what they require, and the best manner of administering it, they would have less cause to complain. The eyes of some are already beginning to open, but it is difficult to turn from the old beaten track and commence a new process.

Just such a paper as your's is needed by all our farmers, and if they would only follow out a great many of its ideas, their condition would be every way improved.

GROUND AND UNGROUND—COOKED AND UNCOOKED FOOD.

In a commuication from the Society of Shakers, at Lebanon, New-York, in the Patent Office Report, we find the following upon the relative value of ground and unground, cooked and uncooked corn for feeding and fattening cattle, &c.:

"The experience of more than 30 years leads us to estimate *ground corn* at one-third higher than *un*ground as food for cattle, and especially for fattening pork; hence it has been the practice of our society for more than a quarter of a century to grind all our provender.

"The same experience induces us to put a higher value upon cooked than upon raw meal; and for fattening animals, swine particularly, we consider 3 of cooked equal to 4 bushels of raw meal.

"Until within the last three or four years our society fattened annually for 30 years from 40,000 to 50,000 pounds of pork, exclusive of lard and offal fat; and it is the constant practice to cook the meal, for which purpose 6 or 7 potash kettles are used."

The Shakers are a close-observing, calculating people, and go in for the practical realities of life, and therefore, in the economy of food, must be presumed to be good judges.

HONEY.—Those who wish to see and taste really good honey, must visit Messrs. L. & R. H. Thorn, at No. 5 Washington Market. We called there the other day to make our usual annual examination of the sweet stores furnished by M. Quinby, of Palatine Church, N. Y., the well known author of the "Mysteries of Bee-keeping Explained." Mr. Q. gives the very best evidence that HE, at least, understands the secret of producing good honey, in the fact that he yearly sends to the Messrs. Thorne more than *four tuns!* (8,000 lbs.) of the best honey to be found in this market. That it is the *best*, is proved by the extra price it commands—31¼ cents per pound wholesale, gross weight. One advantage possessed by this honey, is found in the simple, cheap, and convenient cases in which it is sent to market. For the form and construction of these honey cases, see page 120, Vol. XII, of this journal.

We notice that most of the honey in market this fall, from various parts of the country, is less white and clear than usual. We suppose this was caused by the long rains prevailing during the honey-making season the past summer.

It is a noble science to know one's self; and a noble courage to know how to yield.

Horticultural Department.

SHADE TREES FOR CITIES, VILLAGES AND COUNTRY RESIDENCES.

The recent frosts have fairly stripped the deciduous trees of their foliage, leaving them now just in the right condition for transplanting; and before the ground is closed up by freezing we should give attention to supplying our streets and grounds with shade trees, if this is not already attended to. Perhaps the most fruitful cause of delay, is the difficulty experienced by these fitting of new grounds, in dividing what are the best trees for them to get. To assist such we append a few extracts from our own note book, and we may add that these notes are not drawn from our own observations only, but are in harmony with or directly modified by the opinions of some of the best cultivators of shade trees in our country.

A smaller class of trees is required for the streets of cities and compact towns than for parks, and for more thinly settled villages, and the grounds surrounding rural residences, where there is abundance of room.

For compact streets, we recommend the following as among the best: Oriental Plains, Paulownias, Catalpas, and the Silver-Leaf Poplar.

The Oriental Plain is a pyramidal tree, with clean stem and foliage, is scarcely exceeded in the rapidity of its growth, and has as yet no insect enemy.

The Paulownia is of very rapid growth, has a large leaf, often two or more feet in diameter on young trees. We measured some of them the past season that were over two feet in diameter. The size of the leaves diminish with the growth of the tree. These leaves resemble the ordinary Palm leaf fan. The tree is perfectly hardy, though introduced originally from the climate of Japan; and it is chiefly remarkable for the exceeding beauty of its flowers, which, before the leaves appear in the Spring, cover the trees in large clusters, from six to nine inches in length. The flowers are of a rich purple color, and fill the whole air around them with a fragrance. This tree bids fair to supplant the Ailantus, as it grows quite as rapidly, excels it in many things, and is without its objectionable features. At this season the buds preserve a beautiful appearance.

The Catalpa is more generally known, and need not be described. The only objection to this tree is that its "pods" or seed vessels furnish the rudiments of cigars to "Young America."

The Abèle, or Silver Leaf Poplar, grows as rapidly as any one of the others. The upper side of the leaf is of a rich dark green, the under side a silver white, and the contrast of these colors produces a pleasing effect upon the eye, when the leaves are set in motion by the wind. It is, however, only fit for paved streets, on account of the multitude of suckers it throws up from open ground.

For open streets and grounds the following list comprises the most choice collection; we place first in order those which we consider the best, all things taken into account; Silver-leaf Maple, Oriental Plain, English and American Elms, Tulip-trees, Sycamore Maples, Sugar Maples, Pin Oak, Scarlet Oak, Burr Oak, Catalpa, Linden, Deciduous Cypress, Liquidambar or Sweet-gum, Laburnum, Cucumber Magnolia, Kentucky Coffee-tree, &c. This list embraces all those recommended for streets, except the Silver-leaf Poplar, which is left out for reasons given below. We omit the evergreens, as we recommend setting these in spring, unless it be done early in autumn. Most of the above trees can be obtained of first-class Nurserymen, and they may all be set in spring, but we prefer this season of the year, if it can be done before the ground becomes solid.

The Silver-leaf Maple in its foliage somewhat resembles the Silver-leaf Poplar, and is by many persons preferred to it. It is the most rapid growing of the Maples.

The other Maples are well known as strong robust growing trees, with thick, dense foliage, holding on to late in the autmn; and they are among the most desirable of shade trees.

The Elms are well known—the American for its gothic arch, and the English for its dense foliage.

The Oaks are of a more slow growth, and are well known. The Pin Oak is the finest of them, on account of its pyramidal form, and glossy foliage.

The Linden, (bass-wood,) is known for its symmetry of form, and the Mountain Ash for its beautiful red berries.

The Deciduous Cypress has a soft feathery foliage, of a delightful light green, and very unique in its character. We yesterday noticed one of them in front of the residence of Mr. S. B. Parsons, of Flushing, L. I. The foliage at this season, is of a rich maroon color and contrasts finely with the green terrace near it.

The Liquidambar, or Sweet-gum, has a star leaf, which assumes a beautiful red tint in autumn. This is one of the finest *native* trees, and is not half as well appreciated as it should be.

The Laburnum is noted for the abundant clusters of rich yellow flowers with which it is clothed in June.

The Cucumber Magnolia is a tall growing tree, with large leaves and symmetrical habit.

The Kentucky Coffee is a handsome tree, its light foliage somewhat resembling the Locust. It produces a bean which was used as coffee by the early settlers. (The flavor of the fruit from the cultivated tree is, in our opinion, *not* equal to that of Mocha or Old Java.)

A Comical Toast.—The following toast was given at the agricultural fair at Barnstable last week: "*The Farmers of Cape Cod*—Although they may sometimes be in doubt, from the peculiar nature of the soil, whether they are digging for clams or potatoes, they have always, notwithstanding, a comfortable assurance that they shall find the one or the other."

RAISING FRUIT PROFITABLE.

Much has been written upon the profitableness of fruit culture, yet we think this matter is generally too much neglected and its importance too little appreciated. One reason of this is, that relatively quite too much attention has been bestowed upon raising fancy fruits. Almost every one who has written upon the subject has devoted himself to describing a new variety, or to the best means of raising a small quantity of a great number of fruits. Take apples, for example. We have in our agricultural and horticultural journals chapter upon chapter describing the hundreds of varieties, while little is said upon the importance of producing an abundant supply of some of the leading and long established kinds, such as the Greening, Spitzenburg, Baldwin, Newtown Pippin, Seek-no-further, &c. If public attention has been rightly directed in this matter, why is it that even at this present time, as well as in all past seasons, there is and has always been a scarcity of these fruits in the market, even when they bring prices four times more than would amply pay for their production?

No one can sit down and carefully estimate the cost of raising apples, compared with the amount yielded by other products from the same ground and labor, without being convinced that no branch of industry is so highly remunerating as this, and yet few enter into it as a business.

If we take fruit at its lowest market price, the ground occupied by one apple tree can in no way be made to yield for the same outlay more than a fourth of the value that can be gathered from the tree, even if the fruit be used for feeding only.

In addition to the causes of this state of things above mentioned, two others may be given. First, it has been feared that everybody else was going into the business; and second, the time required to raise a bearing orchard has led most persons to seek for a more immediately remunerating business.

To the first, it may be said that when we take into account the value of fruit for feeding stock, there can be no limit to the quantities that may be profitably raised for home consumption; and to the second, that the cost of rearing an orchard is very trifling, before it begins to yield returns. The ground occupied by growing trees is not lost nor materially injured for other purposes; on the contrary, as we know by profitable experience, trees will flourish quite as well on ground that annually produces hoed crops. We raised a thrifty orchard of six acres, containing three hundred trees, and yet every year gathered from the same ground large crops of corn and potatoes, alternately. The trees thrived all the better from the constant cultivation of the ground around them. A few loads per acre of good manure was annually applied, and the corn and potatoes gave a good profit, over and above the entire expense of cultivation, in addition to the cost of plants, grafting, and the annual care required by the trees. At the end of eight years, our orchard was producing an annual crop of more than a thousand bushels of choice apples, requiring only to be gathered and taken to market, and yielding a *clear profit* of more than fifty dollars per acre. In this orchard we cultivated but six varieties—the Harvest apple, August sweet, Fall pippin, Spitzenburg, Greening and Seek-no-further. Each, in its season, found a ready market, at remunerating prices. The produce of that orchard of six acres, now eighteen years old, is to-day worth more than eighty dollars an acre, annually, for feeding purposes only. The soil was not unusually favorable; indeed, it was so rocky that it could with difficulty be tilled except with the hand hoe.

The process pursued was very simple. The natural trees raised from seeds by ourselves, were planted out and allowed to grow a year or two, and then grafted upon the stock or larger limbs; many of them were grafted by inoculation, and a few days spent each year in pruning, has been the chief care required by the trees. Each spring they were formerly well whitewashed and the leaning trees tied up to a stake. To guard them from being barked by the traces, four white oak stakes, split out like rails, were driven around the trees. When first set out all the trees were leaned a little to the southwest, so as to brace them against the winds prevailing from that direction. There are few or no soils that will not produce apple trees with a little care in manuring. A cart load of stable manure applied once in ten years, to a plot of ground ten feet square—no matter how poor—will fit it to support a good tree.

An apple tree that costs less than two dollars to plant and rear it, will for many years yield, without after expense, an average produce of ten bushels a year, worth for feeding alone, two dollars a year; and fifty to eighty such trees may stand upon a single acre.

While on this subject, we will mention a young orchard that we visited last spring. Several hundred trees planted upon a soil so barren that it would barely yield grass, but the trees were quite as large and thrifty as any we have seen of the same age. We learned that the only manure used was about a quart of urine each, annually, though when first planted, a large deep hole was dug for each tree, and filled up with surface soil, mingled with a small quantity of chip manure.

Gathering Apples and Pears.—It is wrong to take the whole crop off the trees at once, as the fruit will vary in forwardness; the choicest kinds should therefore be looked over two or three times, taking each time those best ripened. Again, many kinds of apples and pears (early ones especially), should be taken in a few days before they appear ripe, or they lose their briskness, and eat mealy and insipid. Let all the fruit intended for keeping be hand-picked, and laid carefully on the shelves of the fruit room; they may be placed three or four thick if room is scarce, but will be better laid singly. As the fruit is deposited in the room, leave open the door and windows, day and night, to allow the moisture which newly-gathered fruit will give off, to escape. Late plums—as the Golden drop, Imperatrice, and the Quetch—may be preserved for a long time, if gathered before they are fully ripe and suspended in a dry, airy room; or they may after drying them for a day or two, be wrapped in tissue paper, and placed on the shelf of the fruit-room. The old bearing wood of the raspberry should now be cut away, to admit light and air to the canes for next year, which should at the same time be thinned out. Where new borders are about being made, now will be the time for commencing them, and preparing the materials for the purpose—dry, sound, healthy loam and rubble stone, and finer waste to cover over with, should be in readiness.—Florist.

PROGRESS IN PEAR CULTURE.

We have just (Oct. 19,) taken a trip to the fruit stalls, stores and confectioners of Broadway, to make note of their contents. There is abundannt evidence of a bountiful fruit harvest, and that the labors of our horticultural societies, of amateur fruit growers, and of the press, are having a very happy influence upon our gardens and orchards. We have never seen so much fruit in the market or so great a variety. Grapes are very abundant, and Dr. Underhill is in the ascendent from Chambers-st., to Astor-place. They are very fine, and retail for eighteen cents a pound. They have usually sold, we believe, in former years, for a shilling a pound. The demand for them doubtless increases as they become known in the market, and he finds no difficulty in marketing his whole crop at any reasonable price. Any one who knows good fruit, would prefer to send for Underhill's grapes at eighteen cents, rather than a chance article at a shilling. This is a very encouraging feature in fruit growing. The more you enlarge the cultivation of a first rate quality of fruit, the more remunerative does it become.

Late varieties of plums are still in market and apples are very abundant and beautiful. We noticed with pleasure the interprise of the salesmen in putting up a variety of fruits in a small basket, just the thing for a present or for the dessert, at so much per basket. The peaches are nearly gone, but the few on sale are very fine.

The most striking feature of the fruit stores, is the large increase in the varieties of pears offered for sale. Formerly the only varieties noticable were the Virgalieu and Seckle, beside the common cooking pears which were nameless. For a few seasons back one could get, at Thompson's and at Taylor's, the Duchess d' Angouleme, and the Beurre Diel, in their season, for a trifle less than their weight in silver. Boston was the only market where pears of the finer varieties could be purchased by their names. We noticed this morning at a number of places, besides the varieties mentioned, the Flemish Beauty, the Napoleon, the Louise Bonne d' Jersey, the Onondaga, and other varieties, and at prices that did not taste of the silver. These are cheering indications that our labors and those of kindred journals are not without their influence upon the country. They are making fruit far more abundant and at prices within the reach of all. We hope to see their influence extended until the luxury of good fruit is found upon every man's table within our borders.

KEEPING APPLES FROZEN.

The injurious effect of frost upon fruits, roots, &c., results, we suppose, from the expansion of the fluids contained in them, which tears and destroys the organic structure. The different varieties of fruits and roots from peculiarities in their structure, and from the greater or less amount of fluids contained in them, may suffer unequally from freezing, but we have had little faith in the various statements to the effect that potatoes, for example, left in the ground over winter have come out sound in the spring after having been frozen solid. We have never observed any direct evidence of this in our own experience, and have supposed that where potatoes have been dug up sound at the close of winter, it has been in some structure protected by a covering of snow or other means. We have seen apples of tough, dry varieties hanging upon the trees in February and March, which were apparently sound but, upon a closer examination showed their internal structure to be materially disorganized, while their flavor—if they ever had any—was destroyed or essentially changed. With this experience and these views of the matter we are at a loss to account for the statements of Dr. I. M. Grosvenor, in the Boston Cultivator, to the effect that several varieties of apples were not harmed at all by freezing and thawing, but even keep better for being frozen. We give Dr. G.'s. statements in full:

When we commenced keeping house, it was in the Dr. Haseltine house, which was old and uncomfortable, and the cellar no better for keeping out cold than the house. In the fall, I laid in a supply of apples, consisting of Green Sweets, Greenings, and a *red* apple which has become extinct or nearly so, although much better for the table than some new varieties. They were carried into the chamber, as it was supposed they would keep better there than any where else till cold weather. About the 10th of November, we were absent from home two or three days, when on our return, we found our apples all very badly frozen, the weather having become very cold while we were gone. We concluded our apples were all spoiled, till the weather became so warm that they were again thawed, when it was found that the Green Sweets were not harmed at all, but the red apples were soft and discolored—good for nothing—and the Greenings nearly as bad. The Sweets were carried to the cellar, where it was supposed they would be safe, but soon the cold returned and our apples were again frozen as bad as ever, and we came to the conclusion that they might as well have remained in the garret. As they could not be used, they were left to see what effect warm weather would have upon them, and as the winter was long and severe, and the cellar better adapted to keeping out heat than cold, the apples remained frozen till April, when they were examined and found to be in good condition, except being wet with condensed vapor. They were wiped dry and returned to the barrels, and the result was that we had a plenty of apples till apples were again ripe. Since that time I have taken no care to keep any more from freezing than were wanted for present use or maket, and have had to keep my Bean apples till the last of April or first of May, not being able to market them sooner, as they were frozen, and have had them in good condition at that time, although you know that it is quite out of season for them.

When they are frozen, they should not be handled or disturbed till they are all thawed again. During the past winter, our's have been so much frozen that we have been short of those fit for use. They remained longer frozen than usual, and they came out quite as well as usual. Russets have kept finely, and I do not think they will average half a peck to a barrel of defective ones, and Green Sweets are about as good. My Baldwins were all sold in the fall, except a few, and some other varieties which I kept for family use, all of which were more or less frozen, and all have kept remarkably well. My cellar is large, and that part in which apples are kept is exposed to the weather, a large door opening to it from without, which is only a single one, and as the mortar and wood have both suffered from time and frost, no light is necessary and the *cats* have room to pass out through the cracks, which would have been stopped if it had not been for the supposition that our apples were safer than if they were.

Thus much for my *experience*, and I have come to the conclusion that apples will keep longer sound if frozen than if not; that they are not injured in the least; that they should be kept where least likely to feel the change of temperature, whether in a cellar or elsewhere, and the drier the better; that while frozen they can not rot, and are not likely to decay any the sooner for having been frozen.

For the American Agriculturist.

Long Scarlet Radish—*A Query.*—Having received a fine quantity of imported seed, and finding it perfectly pure, I tried to save some new seed from it. It was sown on the 28th of March, and produced splendid roots, but showed no disposition to seed till the latter part of June, when it threw up finely and showed large heads of bloom, but would not perfect its seed, and after exhausting the roots the tops rotted down.

Never having such a failure before, I do not know to what to attribute it. The ground was rich and well prepared, but I could not get one seed, while that received from your city produced admirable seed.

The buestion is, whether the above is the usual effect of the climate of this State, upon English seed?—W. Summersbey, Richmond, Virginia.

The deepest waters move most silently; the hottest fires have the smallest flames; and the spheres that have the swiftest motion move without noise.

PRESERVING PLANTS IN WINTER.

BY H. B.

Nothing has more discouraged the cultivation of flowers than the supposed difficulty of preserving them in winter; and as this apparently formidable obstacle disappears as the amateur acquires experience, I shall endeavor to detail some of the methods I have employed, and their successful results. Of course, my remarks are intended for those who garden on a small scale, and who have not greenhouses for winter protection. At the same time, the principles of the treatment about to be described will apply to the largest collections, and may be of service to all whose object is to secure the beauties of the spring and summer from the desolations of winter.

Those whose stock of flowers consists of a few greenhouse plants, which they have cultivated in windows, have a very easy task to perform in protecting their favorites, as far as frost is concerned; for a very small amount of care will suffice when the plants are in a dwelling-house. The temperature of an occupied sitting-room will always be sufficiently high to keep out the frost in the day time, even if the plants are close to the light, and they may easily be removed in the evening to that side of the apartment which is furthest from the window. If the amateur has a large number of plants (young Pelargoniums, for instance,) arranged on shelves close to the window, to remove these would be troublesome, and they may therefore be allowed to remain in their places in ordinary frosty weather, the precaution being taken to interpose the blind between them and the window. I once preserved 200 plants in good health through a severe season, in a room having only one large window, which admitted a good deal of sun. Some of the pots (which were small 60's) were placed on narrow shelves, ascending to the top of the window, and as near the glass as possible; the others were set on a table. An Arnott stove was lit when required either by very damp or very cold weather; air was given as often as possible; the whole collection was often moved, that light might be equally dispensed, and advantage was taken of mild rains. I succeeded in preserving the whole, without any sickly growth being developed, and was rewarded by having an abundance of strong plants for bedding out in the spring. Most of these were Pelargoniums.

Many plants may be more summarily dealt with. Cactuses and Scarlet Pelargoniums will do well in any dry cellar, provided no water is given them. The latter, when taken up from the flower-garden, I have preserved by shaking off the soil, and hanging them, root upwards, in a shed or coach-houses, from which frost could be excluded. In the spring they were found in full possession of their vital powers, and on being trimmed and potted, made handsome plants. In all the cases to which I have alluded, it will be seen that care and forethought are the requisites demanded of the amateur. Attention must not be remitted for a day. I have always found that more plants are lost in the winter by damp than by frost. Much water, therefore, must not be given; indeed it should be altogether withheld so long as the plants do not flag. A plant in a moist growing state will yield easily to frost; while, if it had been kept dry and dormant, its powers of resistance would have been great.

But no plan of preserving plants from frost, independent of a greenhouse, is equal to a well-regulated pit or frame in the open air. I have tried this in various ways and always found it succeed, if properly attended to. At the present time, all my plants intended to be put into the borders next year, or brought into the house, are in a large two-light frame, the management of which I will endeavor to describe. The frame stands about two feet from the ground, sheltered by a south wall, on an exhausted hot-bed, on which Cucumbers were growing in the spring. The mold of this bed having been kept from rain in the early autumn, at the close of October the pots were sunk into it up to the rims. A double light was then put on, by which wet and frost are more effectually excluded, and in the following December the soil around the pots was quite dry. Around the frame long stable dung is piled up about eighteen inches in width, and level with the top. Over the whole an old carpet is thrown when necessary; and I have no apprehension that I shall lose anything if dampness does not defeat my efforts. Every day when it is not frosty, air must be freely admitted, and dead or mildewed leaves must be carefully removed. When frost sets in, two or three extra mats may be laid on, and the whole kept on till a thaw takes place. On no account remove the coverings until at least a day after the frost is gone. This is a very important rule, for the admission of light may be fatal if any of the leaves should be frozen. When plants are found frozen in windows, &c., let them thaw in a dark cellar, and they will often sustain no injury. In this way I have preserved Pelargoniums, Calceolarias, Verbenas, Hydrangeas, &c.; and the freshness of the whole collection after the winter has passed away has always been encouraging. Ordinary greenhouse plants may therefore be preserved by every one during the hardest winter.—Horticult.

For the American Agriculturist.

GARDENING IN VIRGINIA.

The climate of this State differing materially from that of New-York, the routine of gardening is necessarily different in the culinary department. Here we can safely put out cabbage, lettuce, onions, and many other vegetables, to stand the winter. Cabbages planted in November produce first-rate heads in the following May, and if attention be paid to securing the proper kinds, a supply may be had in July of those planted in November. For example, the Enfield, Large York, and Flat Dutch, sown and planted out at the same time, make a fine succession—the Enfield coming first, followed by the Large York. All these kinds stand the winter well, and make finer cabbages than those sown on hot-beds in early spring. Cauliflowers having the protection of a south fence stand the winter very well, and most kinds of lettuce, if properly planted, are unharmed through the winter. We are thus enabled to produce a fine supply of early vegetables. Peas and other spring growing vegetables will allow of being sown much earlier than can be done in the northern States.

But there are many difficulties to contend with, one of the greatest of which is, the dry weather that often prevails just at the proper season for sowing seeds. We experienced a drouth in August and September last, which has had a peculiar effect on the Norfolk Globe turnip, turning the hearts perfectly black, although to outward appearance they are very fine turnips. It has not had the same effect on the White Globe or Red Top, which are really good turnips.

I have tried guano with turnips, but the bulbs are hard and coarse, and even two hours boiling will not make them eatable. Cow manure, with the same seed as the former, produced splendid turnips, juicy and very tender. Those sown on corn land, without manure, are altogether superior to those sown with guano. My own opinion of guano is, that if applied for four successive years to all crops taken off, the ground will not afterwards produce a crop of buckwheat. It is one of the most admirable manures that can be applied, if care be exercised; but if applied to ground constantly, as many are now doing, without change, it is capable of spoiling the best ground until after leaving off the use of it for two seasons, and applying other manure. W. Summersbey.

THE DWARF PEAR QUESTION.

We have repeated and almost constant inquiries in relation to the value of the pear on quince stocks. Are dwarf pears going to answer? Are they not a humbug? Are they as good as standards? Would you rather have a tree on pear or quince root? These are some of the questions that are continually asked; and the conflicting answers that are given do not help to clear up the question.

Yet it is a very simple one, and very easily understood when cleared of the fog which partial observers and interested persons have thrown around it. To say which is best under all circumstances, would be like attempting to answer the question, 'Do you think the watermelon as good as the strawberry? Shall we not confine ourselves hereafter to the best of these two, and discard the other as a humbug?'

Dwarf and standard pears are each excellent in their places. The standard pear, as a general rule grows to be a much larger tree, requires more time, needs more room, ultimately bears more per tree, will endure more neglect, and in most cases live to a greater age. The dwarf will come sooner into bearing, will occupy less space, and will not bear neglect, but requires good cultivation. We are not sure but the last quality is a positive recommendation; for planters certainly need the stimulus of necessity to induce them to take better care of their trees. A standard will indeed grow and bear under ordinary circumstances; but give it the best chance, and the fruit will be so much improved, as sometimes to be scarcely recognized. The dwarf is emphatically the tree of the garden, where two hundred may be planted on a quarter acre, instead of but twenty-five standards, and where no difficulty exists in giving them the best soil and treatment. Those who are about occupying new places, may secure for themselves a supply of fruit in two or three years by planting three year dwarfs; and pomologists may get the fruit of new kinds the first or second year.

One leading reason why some have pronounced dwarfs a failure, is the attempt to raise too many kinds on the quince. There are a few sorts that are entirely at home on this stock, and are always seen in a flourishing state, under anything like favorable influences, among which sorts may be mentioned Louise Bonne of Jersey, Duchess of Angouleme, Glout Morceau, and Vicar of Winkfield, trees of which, twenty or thirty years old, are now productive and vigorous, and will probably live to a hundred. Some of these, and especially the Jersey and Winkfield, seem to grow well on almost any kind of quince. But all do best on the French stock, and this only should be used. The Angouleme appears to be the hardiest dwarf under neglect. We have just examined an orchard of these, about nine years planted, which until the present year, had been almost totally neglected for five or six seasons, and enveloped in weeds and grass, and growing on a hard stony soil. The present season they have been cultivated but not manured, and they all show a thrifty appearance, and are bending under their load of magnificent fruit. The trees are about two and a half to three inches in diameter, and stand erect, although allowed to run up as standards, without pruning. They bore very little while neglected. As a proof of their superior hardiness, all or nearly all of those originally planted are flourishing, while other dwarfs, interspersed, have nearly all died out from neglect.

There are several sorts of the pear that usually do well and live long on the quince, if enriched and cultivated annually, but not otherwise.—Country Gent.

COLLECT LEAVES FOR LITTER.

After the harvest is over, and before the snows cover the ground, a day or two spent by the farmer and his hands in collecting the fallen leaves of the forest will be productive of a good store of excellent litter, and the expenses amply repaid. A good collection of such materials is not always made in the fall by those who could do it easily. Indeed, this prudent foresight for litter with which to bed down cattle, horses, and other stock, during the winter, is not sufficiently practised among us. It not only insures a great amount of comfort to your cattle, by giving an easy and warm bed, but it saves, indirectly, much fodder, in consequence of the warmth thus obtained—cattle eating much less when they are kept warm and cleanly.

The leaf harvest, then, is one of importance to the farmer, if he will avail himself of it. A calm day or two spent in this business, with his boys and oxen, and hay rack, will enable him to get together a large pile of these fallen leaves, and if stowed in a dry place he will experience the good effects of them in the improved condition of his stock, compared with those which are suffered to lie down, and perhaps be frozen down in their own filth. The fertilizing material of leaves also adds essentially to the enriching qualities of the manure heap. Gardeners prize highly a compost made in part of decomposed leaves.

As the leaf harvest is the last harverst of the year, let it be attended to, when its time comes.—Maine Farmer.

TREE PLANTING.

We notice among the munificent bequests of Elliott Cressen, a legacy of $5,000 to be employed in planting trees in Philadelphia. There is something touching in this gift. It is fragrant of good taste and friendly feeling. It seems to express gratitude for the comforting shade of some old tree under which the weary philanthropist had meditated his schemes of usefulness; and of considerate interest for the health and pleasure of future generations, who are to people the city of his birth. And when monuments of marble and of bronze shall crumble, the broad arms of the elm and the oak shall stand out against the sky as the befitting memento of the liberality and the taste of the tree-loving Philadelphian.

Every one should plant trees. No object is more beautiful than a spreading elm, or a lively evergreen; none more productive than the apple or the luscious pear. Half the labor bestowed on a single crop of potatoes, would originate an orchard, the product of which in a few years would be equal in value annually, to the potato crop, yet with but little labor beyond the harvesting. A fortnight's toil in the spring or autumn, in transplanting choice fruit-trees to the roadside, or tastefully grouping them on the lawn, will ultimately add more to the value of the place than twice the time employed in building or fencing. For their own comfort, for the sake of their descendants, for the taste and improvement of the country, plant trees—let everybody plant trees.

That bald, naked church, tasteless, treeless! Who will have compassion on the worshipers, and surround it with trees? That district school house, bare and unsightly; who will interest the boys in planting and protecting shrubs and trees that will make it an attractive and beautiful spot? Those verdureless villages, with their houses thrust upon the street—who will distribute honey-suckles, and Virginia creepers and prairie roses, that they may be turned into civilized habitations?

There is a softening, humanizing influence in horticulture and tree-planting, that we could wish were more general. There is too much danger of the gross and sensual and selfish in our national character; and while our reliance must be on religious and educational influences to correct this tendency, we believe that good and only good would come of the love for trees and flowers, and the cultivation of both. It may be blessed in leading the heart up to the love of the Rose of Sharon and the garden of God.—American Messenger.

THE CLOVER SEED CROP.

We have, on a previous occasion, stated that great anxiety existed in reference to the fate of the growing crop of clover-seed in this State and Indiana. We have made every exertion to ascertain what has been the fate of the crop, and are sorry to announce that it has proven almost an entire failure.

We have letters from various points in this State and Indiana; some of them say there will be a little, but fully two-thirds of our correspondents say the crop in each of their localities is an entire failure. The after-growth was very luxuriant, too much so to yield well, but the wet weather cast it down, and it partially rotted on the ground before it was cut, as a general thing, and after it was cut, the weather so injured the remaining seed, that it could not be saved, except in comparatively few instances. We feel perfectly satisfied in saying that the entire amount secured in this State can not be more than one-fourth the average crop; and the same may be said of Indiana.

The stock of old seed in this market is exceedingly light, and is in a few hands.

By the last steamer from England we are advised that the crop in that island is a total failure; and in London, Baring says, an active demand has arisen for old. We have no authentic intelligence as regards the crop in the eastern States, but we are disposed to believe, from what little information we have, that it is better than it is in the western States.

The stock of old seed in New-York is said to be a moderate one.—Price Current, Cincinnati.

Litchfield (Conn.) Stock.—The Messrs. Hurlbut, of Winchester, the pioneers in the raising of Devon cattle in that part of the country, were represented at the Boston cattle show. The Mountain County Herald says:

In answer to an inquiry of ours, Mr. Robbins Battell, of Norfolk, writes us that he has received one hundred and seventy-eight dollars in premiums upon stock exhibited at different agricultural shows the present fall. Mr. Battell further informs us that a circumstance which gave him peculiar pleasure at the recent National Show at Boston, was the fact that "The Bull (3 years old and upwards) that took the first prize and was acknowledged far superior to any other upon the ground, although it had several imported bulls to compete with, was bred by the Messrs. Hurlbut, and called '*Winchester.*'" It was exhibited by Mr. De Forest of Dutchess Co., N. Y.

Heavy carrot crops for cattle will soon return carats of gold.

Book Record.

All Books received—if not unworthy of notice—will be announced in this column by title, as soon as received. Further notices or reviews of Agricultural and Horticultural Books will be given—when their striking merits or demerits require it—after we have had time to thoroughly examine them.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE NEW-YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY for 1854, with an abstract of the proceedings of the County Agricultural Societies.

We are under obligations to the Secretary, Mr. B. P. Johnson, for an early copy of this work. It strikes us as being one of the best of the series yet published for the Society. The articles appear to be better selected, and more condensed and practical, than they have been for several years past. Among so many things presented for publication, it is a delicate matter on the part of the Secretary to so choose and select, as not to give offense to the County Societies and individual contributors, and yet do justice to the State Society, and those among whom the work is particularly designed to be distributed. It would undoubtedly be a greater benefit to the public if this volume were condensed more than it now is; but it would perhaps not answer the purposes of the Society as well, nor be as popular generally with members? There are certain forms, reports, and speeches which must annually appear in this document, whether inetresting to the majority of readers or not; as it is a work of standing reference for dry details and statisties, as well as popular information on agriculture.

After our criticisms upon former volumes it gives us great pleasure to be able to say that the paper and typhography of this volume of the Transactions, is more uniform and agreeable to the eye than any we have received for several years past. There is no reason why the State Printer should fall behind private publishers—with the governmental facilities, public printing, like public steam engines, public fire-arms, &c., should be *models* for imitation.

The Year Book of Agriculture, or the Annual of Agricultural Progress and Discovery for 1855 and 1856; by David Wells, A. M. Published by Childs and Peterson, Philadelphia. For sale in New-York by C. M. Saxton & Co. This work, announced in our advertising columns and referred to by us some weeks since, is just published. We received a copy at the moment of closing this column—too late to allow of an examination sufficient to decide how well the editor has carried out the *design* of such a work, which we approved in our announcement in advance. We notice a manifest error in the title page, which the publishers should correct at once; we refer to the book being called the "Annual of Agricultural Progress and Discovery for 1855 & 1856;" which should be for "1854 & '55," as the report closes with September of 1855. This is a matter of some importance, if the work is to be continued as a serial.

Patent Office Report for 1851.—*Agricultural Division.*—Why should we be compelled from year to year to announce the report as above. We think it would read better thus: "Report of the United States Agricultural Bureau." To such a Department, *if necessary*, the Patent Office might be attached, as the largest class of patents is that including agricultural implements. But this by the way. The Report before us is in the usual form and style; contains 520 pages; is well printed, on excellent paper for a "public document," and from a cursory examination, we think the matter in the pages of this volume is an improvement upon its predecessors. One hundred thousand extra copies were printed for the members of Congress (about 250 each), so that those specially interested will probably be able to obtain a few copies, by applying to the Representatives in Congress from their district.

The Time and the End; A Prophetic Period, developing, as predicted, an increase of knowledge respecting the Prophecies and Periods that foretell the end. Illustrated by the history of prophetic interpretation, the expectation of the Church; together with various interpretations of Scripture prophetic periods by a great number of commentators and theological writers. By a Congregationalist. New-York, Sheldon, Lamport & Blackman; pp. 408. A pretty full discussion of the subject for those interested in such matters.

The Refugee, or the Narratives of Fugitive Slaves in Canada, as related by themselves, with an account of the history and condition of the Colored Population in Upper Canada. By Benj. Drew, Boston. J. P. Jewett & Co.; pp. 387.

The Eventful Nights of August 20th and 21st, 1854, and how Judge Edmonds was hocussed, or the fallibility of "Spiritualism" exposed. By F. C. Ewer. New-York: S. Hueston. Pamphlet, pp. 106; price 25c.

American Female Education; What? and by Whom? A Lecture by R. W. Cushman, A. M., Principal of Mt. Vernon Ladies' School, Boston. A neat pamphlet, published by Jewett & Co.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

American Agriculturist Office,
New-York, Nov. 24, 1855.

Since our last monthly summary the prices of Breadstuffs have slowly and almost constantly advanced, especially in the lower grades. The most rapid advance in Flour and Wheat has taken place within the last day or two, resulting from the near approach of the close of canal navigation, and the favorable news from Europe received by the Canada at Halifax, on Thursday (22nd inst). The canals are advertised to close on the 5th of December. The great demand to make up an unforeseen and unexpected deficiency in Europe, has exhausted a greater portion of the surplus flour and wheat arriving at the seaboard, so that we have now comparatively limited stocks for the winter's exports and consumption. We can not now look for any material decline in prices along the Atlantic coast during the winter; while the additional expense of bringing forward produce by railroad, will perhaps lower prices in the more distant interior towns. The following figures show the comparative prices of some of the principal products at the two dates named :

	Oct. 24.	Nov. 24.
Flour—Ordinary State.....	$8 50@8 75	$9 50@9 62
Mixed Western........	8 50@8 75	9 50@9 62
Favorite and Extra St..	8 62@8 75	9 62@9 68
Extra Genesee.........	9 50@10 00	10 00@11 50
Wheat—Canada White....	$2 05@2 16	$2 25@2 20
Western Red...........	1 85@1 95	2 00@2 09
Corn—Western Mixed......	91@93c.	1 04@1 06
Rye........................	1 20@1 25	1 28@1 30
Barley......................		1 20@1 30
Oats—Western	46@50c.	52@ 54
Cotton—Middling..........	9¼@9¾c.	9⅝@9⅞c.

Rice closes to-day at $4.62@$5.25 ℔ 100 lbs., a decline of ⅜c. ℔ lb.

Sugars have fluctuated somewhat, closing at a little advance over last month.

Pork is unchanged. Mess Pork sold to-day for $22.00@$22.50 ℔ lb. Dressed hogs for 8⅜c.@8⅝c. ℔ lb. Lard has advanced a little closing, at 12c.@12½c. ℔ lb.

Butter has experienced a considerable advance, closing at 18c.@22c. for western ; 24c.@28c. for common to very good State butter, and 28c.@31c. for very choice. Cheese has also advanced, and closes at 10c.@11½c.

Beef cattle have fluctuated considerably, as usual. They have generally ruled pretty low, but sold a little higher on this week's market day.

The above quotations, we are happy to say, show a very favorable state of things for the farmers of this country. The prospective continuance of the war, and the general deficiency of crops in Europe, give a fair prospect of continued high prices here, notwithstanding our heavy crops. Now is the time for farmers to increase the productions of their lands to the highest limits, to pay off all indebtedness, and by avoiding debt place themselves in a position to be independent of any future financial revulsions that may come upon us—revulsions that many are predicting will soon be experienced.

The Weather.—Since our last review we have generally had beautiful weather. The closing week of October was marked by clear fair weather, with the exceptions of a slight rain on the 27th. The heavy rain noticed at the time of our last remarks (Oct. 24), cleared away on the 25th.

November 1st was clear. The depth of water that fell on the 3d, equaled full 1 1-5 inches (1.22). From the 4th to the 11th, the weather was generally clear ; on the 8th a shower of short duration showed a ½ inch of water, and on the 12th nearly as much more (0.42) fell. From the 12th to the 20th we had fair, beautiful weather, with a cold change on the 17th—the thermometer falling nearly 10 degrees, and it still continues cold, though it is comparatively warm for the season. On Wednesday (21st) considerable rain fell. To-day we have a very high wind, about the first strong blow of the season. Snow has fallen a few degrees north of us. The genial weather for several weeks past has had a favorable effect upon winter wheat and rye, giving them a strong root-hold to withstand frosts.

P. S.—Monday, November 26. We have to-day a warm smoky atmosphere indicative of another edition of Indian Summer.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):
Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.
Advertisements will be displayed in CAPITALS and leaded over as many lines space as are paid for.
No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

SHORT HORNS.—Short Horned Cows, Heifers and Bulls for sale. Address

JAMES W. WILKIN,
Wilkin's Villa, (near Montgomery,)
Orange County, N. Y.
105-110n1233

NEW HORSE-POWER FOR FARMERS AND MECHANICS!
THE VERMONT WIND-MILL.

Blow winds and crack your cheeks ; rage, blow.—*King Lear.*

Wind is at once powerful, inexpressive, and blows every where. Just the thing for Farmers and Mechanics ; just the thing for a thousand uses : to grind grain, paints, apples ; to turn lathes, grindstones, scour, polish, cut, saw, in the high lofts of buildings, over city and country, on mountains, in villages, and on prairies. To work on marble, cut slate, straw, thresh grain, and pump water for railroad stations, for stock, for household use, fountains, ponds, etc—to drain land, and to do the work of millions of muscles everywhere. The VERMONT WIND-MILL will do all this and more. It will adjust its own sails to the wind, is simple, strong, cheap, and durable, beautiful in theory, certain in action. Manufactured by the Inventor's Manufacturing Company.

AGENTS WANTED for the sale of this new motive-power. TOWN, COUNTY, and STATE RIGHTS for sale. Address FOWLER AND WELLS, 308 Broadway, New-York.

GENERAL DEPOT IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, FOR ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND OTHER MACHINERY.

The undersigned having a large Manufactory for the purpose of making all kinds of Plows, Harrows, Seed-Sowers, Harvesters (Mowing and Reaping machines and Grain Cradles of the most approved patent), Threshing and Winnowing machines, Horse Powers, Carts, Wagons, Axes, Hoes, &c.; and having in addition, a large Warehouse for the reception and sale of most kinds of machinery, such as TURNING LATHES, PLANING MACHINES, for both wood and iron, MORTICING and TENONING machines for wood, &c., is prepared to execute orders promptly and in the most satisfactory manner, for all kinds of American tools and implements suitable for EUROPE, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH-AMERICA, and all parts of the World.

Having been engaged for many years in New-York in manufacturing and exporting the above machinery, the undersigned is not only thoroughly conversant with the wants of foreign markets, but familiar with boxing, shipping, &c. Orders need only to be addressed, with remittances, to receive prompt attention,

R. L. ALLEN,
New-York Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store,
Dec. 1855. Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

IF YOU WANT EMPLOYMENT, NOW is the time to send for a full descriptive Catalogue of SEARS' PICTORIAL FAMILY VOLUMES,

Consisting of useful and attractive books, for the Wives and Children of the Farmer, Mechanic, Laborer, Physician, Lawyer, and Divine—for persons in every sphere and station of life, and for followers of every pursuit—FOR PUBLIC, PRIVATE and DISTRICT SCHOOL LIBRARIES. They have been prepared with great care, and at enormous expense, combining the useful with the agreeable, the solid with the ornamental ; and designed, by replacing the cheap trash which overruns the country, with literary food of a moral, attractive and useful character—to disseminate, broadcast, the seeds of virtue and religion—to extend far and wide the roots of a true and lofty patriotism ; and, by making good citizens of the rising generation, to throw a firm bulwark around our free and noble institutions.

☞ Our Publications are among the best, for Book Agents, now published. For further particulars, address

ROBERT SEARS, 181 William-st., New-York.

THOROUGH-BRED NORTH DEVON AND SHORT HORN CATTLE FOR SALE.

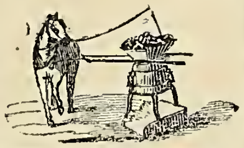
The subscribers now offer for sale five thorough-bred Devon Cows, two yearling Heifers, two yearling Bulls, and four Bull and Heifer Calves.

Also, one Short Horn Bull, 12 months old, from a prize Cow and Bull, and three Short Horn Bull Calves.

For Pedigrees of the above, reference can be had to the Catalogues of the subscriber, which will be forwarded by mail on application.

We have also for sale a few Long-wooled New Oxfordshire SHEEP, consisting of yearling Ewes and Bucks and Buck Lambs.

WM. L. COWLES & SON,
Farmington, Ct.
106—8n1242



THE LITTLE GIANT

CORN and COB CRUSHER, to work with one or more horses, the best machine in use for this purpose.

For sale, of various sizes and prices, by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

THE NIMBLE GIANT,

Being one of the latest improved iron GRAIN MILLS for grinding corn, oats, &c.

This machine works with great rapidity with two horses, or when driven by water or steam. It is simple, not liable to get out of order, and durable. Price, $55, with two sieves attached for separating the bran and coarse meal; and with cast steel cob-breaking attachment, for making cob meal, $65. Warranted to give perfect satisfaction, or the purchase money returned.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.
GREATLY ENLARGED STOCKS.

Prices Reduced for Autumn and Spring Sales.

Sold only in packages of four sizes, as follows :

Packages of Six Plants - - - - -	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants - - - -	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st , New-York,
Or at New-Rochelle,
Westchester County, N. Y.
105tfn1235

A DESIRABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE FOR SALE—Situated in the beautiful village of Wallingford, Ct. The Real Estate consists of seventy acres of fine land, suitably portioned into grazing, tillable and wood land. A large quantity of fruit trees, such as apples, pears, and plums, are in bearing condition on the place. The land is so situated that the owner can stand near his house and take a full view of his whole farm. On the premises is a substantial, modern built dwelling house, and spacious out-buildings. Connected with the premises is a reservoir of water, which virtually supplies the barns and house, and is capable of being carried to every room in the dwelling. The water from this natural reservoir might be easily diverted so as to form large fish-ponds and beautiful fountains. The premises are situated half a mile from the center of the town, and about that distance from the Railroad, which connects New-York with Boston.

The location is eminently adapted to any person who wishes to enjoy life in the country and at the same time be accessible to the large cities. For particulars, inquire of ELIJAH WILLIAMS, on the premises, or of Messrs. ALLEN & CO., No. 189 Water-st., New-York. 106—8n1239

STEAM PLOWING ENGINE!—The subscriber proposes to build an Engine of sufficient strength and power to break up new land, whenever he may meet with a capitalist who will advance $500, under bond to share equally the benefits of a Patent.

G. W. HOWARD,
106—7n1241 138 Atlantic-st , Brooklyn, N. Y.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,
(QUEENS PATENT,)

The best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—136n1190eow

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of

WM LAWTON,
No 54 Wall-st., New-York
83-108n1188

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS is requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the sinks and privies of New-York city, by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called

TAFEU,

from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil ; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal.

From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240 lbs., or bags of 125 lbs. Price $35 per tun, or 1¾ cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York.

For further particulars address

THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POUDRETTE, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price $1.50 per bbl. for any quantity over 7 bbls. 99—121n1152

SHORT HORNS.—The subscribers offer for sale a few Bull and Heifer Calves, the get of ASTORIA, LORD, VANE TEMPEST 2d, imported 3d DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, and imported EARL VANE. Catalogues may be had from J. C. Jackson, Esq., No. 111 Water-st., N. Y., or the subscribers, at Elizabethtown, New-Jersey.

B. & C. S. HAINES.

BAGS.—NOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York,

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED. FLOUR, SALT GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE. HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.

Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city.

Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS.

☞ We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day. 97—109n1214

ANDRE LEROY'S NURSERIES, AT ANGERS, FRANCE.

The undersigned begs leave to inform his numerous friends and customers that he is now ready to execute all orders for Fruit, Forest and Oreamental Trees, Evergreen Shrubs, Stocks, &c. His collection is particularly fine this year for all kinds of Trees, &c., except Quince Stocks, the crop of which has again failed.

The Catalogue for 1855 is ready for distribution, and all those who wish to get a copy can obtain one, free of charge, by addressing our agent in New-York, Mr. F. A. BRUGUIERE, 138 Pearl-st., successor to our former agent and friend, Mr. Ed. Bossange, who has retired from business. Orders should be sent at once to secure a complete assortment. All required information to import Trees, &c., will be found on the first page of our Catalogue.

ANDRE LEROY, Angers.
F. A. BRUGUIERE, Sole Agent,
105-107n1234 138 Pearl-st., New-York.

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—120n1212 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

INDEX.

Agricultural Exhibitions..........60
" fair, a German..........61
" patents..........53
" society exhibition at Boston..........51
Agriculture, Year Book of..........70
Air necessary for decomposition..........53
Ants, how to drive away..........64
Apples and pears, gathering..........67
" keeping frozen..........67
Beasts that perish..........62
Beef, cutting up and retailing..........52
Book Notices..........70
Bread from grown wheat..........59
Breeding animals..........57
Buckwheat porridge..........62
" cakes..........56
Carnations, impregnation of..........64
Carrots for poultry..........53
Cattle, regulation in feeding..........56
Chain pumps..........54
Clay for light land..........54
Corn carrying in Russia..........59
" some..........53
Crop, a profitable..........56
Curing bacon without smoke..........57
Eating and sleeping..........60
Fall plowing..........54
Farming in Maine..........65
Flax cotton..........54
Folding ladder..........64
Fruit raising profitable..........66
Gardening in Virginia..........68
Grass..........59
Ground and unground food..........65
Harvest, a golden..........50
Hedges, how to cut..........58
Hogs, management of..........58
" time of putting up..........56
Honey..........65
Horses, staggers in..........63
Lambs, winter management of..........55
Leaves. to take impressions of..........64
" for litter..........69
Minnesota, from..........63
Muck, more about..........51
" ashes..........53
Mushroons, how to grow..........62
Notes from our field-book..........65
Parsley, winter..........63
Pear culture, progress in..........67
" question, the dwarf..........69
Potatoes, large..........64
Preserves..........63
Preserving plants in winter..........68
Pudding, unique..........62
Radish, long scarlet..........68
Sawdust for bedding..........61
Sealing-wax for cans..........64
Shade-trees for cities..........66
Squash, "some"..........63
Stock, look well to the..........55
Subscribers to our..........52
Taplin's horse-power..........53
Toast, a comical..........66
Tobacco analysis..........53
Tooth-ache remedy..........64
Trip to the Mississippi..........49
Wheat bread..........64
Wheat flour—composition of..........52
Willow culture..........62
Wind-mill, Vermont..........55

A CHEAP AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY.

By reprinting some of the earlier volumes, and supplying deficient numbers of the later volumes, the publishers have succeeded in preparing a number of complete sets of the American Agriculturist, beginning with 1842 and ending with the volume just closed.

These constitute FOURTEEN LARGE VOLUMES, bound in uniform style, each volume being supplied with a full alphabetical index, by means of which immediate reference can be made to any topic or subject desired.

The whole set furnishes more than FIVE THOUSAND pages, in which is discussed almost every subject in the range of Agricultural Science and PRACTICE. There is scarcely a topic connected with farming, gardening, stock raising, fruit growing, &c., upon which valuable information may not be found, in one or more of these volumes. There have been few practical writers on agriculture, either in this or other countries, whose direct or indirect contributions have not assisted in filling and enriching these pages from time to time; and we think it no exaggeration to say that the 14 volumes of the Agriculturist constitute the most complete compendium or encyclopedia of Agriculture to be found in the country. We have much to regret that the entire work has not been stereotyped, so that an unlimited supply could be furnished, as it ought to form a part of every public and private agricultural library, and it would be especially desirable to have it in the archives of every agricultural society. This will not be possible, however, as there is but a limited number of complete sets, and no more of these can be obtained after the present supply is exhausted.

The fourteen volumes will be neatly packed and forwarded to any direction desired, on the receipt of $15 by the Publishers.

Any of the old Series—included in the first ten volumes—will be furnished at $1.25 per volume; and any of the new Series—included in volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV—at $1.50 per volume.

Orders for the above, or any further inquiries, may be addressed to

ALLEN & CO.,
No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

Publisher's Announcement
FOR THE
FIFTEENTH VOLUME
OF THE
American Agriculturist.
A Leading, Standard Agricultural Journal.
$1 Per Annum—Discount to Clubs.

The AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST will enter upon its Fifteenth Volume, October 1st, 1855, and be promptly issued thereafter on the first day of each month, making a large double quarto annual volume, printed with new and beautiful type, on heavy, extra white magazine paper of a superior fine quality.

Its pages will be devoted exclusively to AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC ARTS, and those matters which relate directly to the cultivation of the soil.

It is designed to embrace such subjects as—Selection of seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various field and garden crops; fruit growing; care, treatment and improvement of all kinds of domestic animals; the construction and embellishment of farm buildings; housing, preserving, and marketing the products of the farm, orchard, garden and dairy; and to the domestic or household labors of the rural home.

It will be *progressive* in its character, having a constant watch for all improvements and new developments; and, at the same time, be sufficiently conservative to avoid and warn its readers against visionary theories, and the dangerous teachings of those who would create or distort scientific theories to subserve their private interests.

The *American Agriculturist* will be entirely independent of all collateral interests. The conducting and controling Editor, having no connection with any business whatever, will take good care that its pages shall be devoted only to such matters as relate directly to the interests of the reader.

It will continue under the CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of Mr. O. JUDD, who will be assisted by the counsels and contributions of those gentlemen who first originated the *Agriculturist*, and have done much to maintain its uniform high character—including Messrs. A. B. ALLEN, LEWIS F. ALLEN, Rev. WM. CLIFT, together with several able contributors, whose united labors will serve to fill its pages with matter eminently serviceable to every owner or cultivator of even the smallest plot of ground.

TERMS:

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00
Twenty copies one year	15 00

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS.

Combination of Agricultural and News Journals.

In order to furnish all our subscribers who may desire with early agricultural intelligence, such as full, extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world, we have made arrangements with Messrs. RAYMOND, HARPER & Co., to furnish us with an extra edition of the

NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES,

one of the largest and most comprehensive newspapers in the country. The Agricultural Department of the *Times*, together with its full reports of sales and price of live stock, farm and garden produce, &c., is prepared expressly for that paper by Mr. JUDD, the Conducting Editor of this journal.

The two papers combined will embrace all that could be desired by the cultivator of the soil, wherever he may be located. The Monthly *American Agriculturist* will furnish standard articles of a high and practical character, adapted to the Month and Season in which they appear, and so valuable as to be worth preserving in a convenient form; while the Weekly will give the news of the day, not only agricultural but in every other departmsnt. The matter in the two papers will be different, and generally distinct from each other.

Hereafter we shall mail the *American Agriculturist* on the first of each month, and the *Times* on Thursday of each week, on the following liberal terms, which will include the cost of both papers:

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 00
Ten copies of both papers one year	16 00
Twenty copies of both papers one year	30 00

Back numbers of the Monthly *American Agriculturist*, when on hand, will be supplied at 10 cents per number. Back numbers of the *Times* can not be supplied.

Specimen copies always sent free.

All subscriptions or business communications to be addressed to

ALLEN & CO.,
Publishers of American Agriculturist,
No. 189 Water-st., New York.

N. B.—Editorial matters to be addressed,
Editor of American Agriculturist.

PRINTED BY H. C. REYNOLDS, No. 189 Water-st.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
ALLEN'S do. do.
BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

THRESHERS—
ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
EMERY'S overshot.
EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, $40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at $6 to $25, and Burr-Stone at $50 to $250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil. Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM. or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth.
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

PEAH TREES FOR SALE.—10,000 first class Peach Trees, very thrifty and healthy, best market varieties, for sale low, in quantities to suit purchasers.

The superiority of northern New-Jersey Peaches is so well known as to need no other recommendation.

ALSO:

Mazzard Cherry pits, by the bushel or quart, preserved in the very best manner, and not allowed to become dry and worthless

ALSO:

Orange Quince Seed.—A very fine lot of this seed will be ready for delivery in November, fresh and pure.

WM. DAY,
Morristown, N. J.
204—107n1231

CIDER MILLS—Of the best and latest improvements, occupying a space less than four feet square, and capable of grinding the apples and pressing several barrels of Cider per day with only two hands. For sale by
R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.—The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112.

He would also sell a few imported Ewes.

SAMUEL THORNE,
"Thornedale," Washington Hollow.
Dutchess Co., N. Y.
100tfn1219

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

EDITED BY
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

PUBLISHED BY
ALLEN & Co., 189 Water-st.

VOL. XV.—No. 4.] NEW-YORK, JANUARY, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 108.

A TRIP TO THE WEST—No. 2.

DUBUQUE—THE UPPER MISSISSIPPI.

Dubuque is well situated on a high bottom of the west bank of the Mississippi, in Iowa, latitude 42½° North, and opposite the dividing east and west lines of the State of Illinois and Wisconsin. The position of the town is eligible, except the plain on which it stands is too narrow, extending back only eighty or a hundred rods from the shore, behind which the formidable stone-quarried bluffs rise almost perpendicularly two hundred feet, and then spread into fine rolling table-land far away west into the interior. These bluffs are pierced with deep ravines every mile or two, through which small streams gush along, swollen heavily after every rain, and debouch into the ever-changing channel of the river. At times the bluffs impend directly above the stream, affording scarce room for a secure highway. At others they retreat farther back, leaving broad, sunny spots of great fertility, sites for noble farms or beautiful towns. Such an one is occupied by Dubuque. It is commodiously laid out, with wide streets, well built with brick and stone houses—many of them in a good style of architecture, and not a few in pretty taste. Several respectable churches and school-houses also decorate the town. It is an old settlement—for that country—the site having been occupied about the same time as Galena. Like Galena, too, it has extensive lead mines on all sides for many miles out, and is the chief point of deposit on the west side of the river for their products. The place has some 12,000 people, as the census just now completed foots up.

Desirous of examining the mines, we procured a companion, and went out a few miles west of the town for this purpose. Ascending the bluff by a circuitous and rather steep road in the side of a ravine, we arrived at the summit, on which are built, scattered among the natural groves, many tasteful houses looking out over the town, the broad river, and the valley which lay beneath for several miles up and down, in the midst of which swept along the noble river cut into numerous channels by long, low islands covered with water-willows, alders, and young growths of cotton-wood. The scene, warmed by the mild rays of an October sun, was soft and very beautiful, yet wild, and for the most part uncultivated, but enlivened by the occasional passing up or down of one of those fantastic-looking, low-hulled steamboats which plow their tortuous way over thes fitful waters. A straggling village extending westward lay along the main road on the table land beyond the bluff. This, in "old times," was the stopping-place for the huge ox wagons which brought in the produce of the country, and carried out, though in greatly diminished quantity of tunnage, the supplies landed at the lower town from the passing boats. We met numerous ox-trains with their rather rough-looking drivers coming in laden with wheat from many miles inland, which the present high price—a dollar a bushel, and upwards—had hurried out. These many ox wagons brought to mind a story told us some dozen years ago by Gen. Wilson, of New-Hampshire, at that time Surveyor General of Iowa, and residing at Dubuque. On his arrival there, he took lodgings at the best tavern in the town—and none too good, at that—with a widow woman who kept it, and had been long a resident. He had observed the course of trade, the rough and helter-skelter habits of the miners who drew their loads of lead-ore into town with ox-teams, which, for the most part, were a sorry looking set. One day at the table, seated near the old lady and familiarly chatting, the General remarked: "Well, my good woman, what sort of a place is this mining country, after all?" "Why, I'll tell you, Gin'ral," responded she; "its quite a tolerable place for hosses and men; but its awful on wimmen and oxen!" We think, however, the oxen have a better time of it now than in those purely lead-hauling times, for they looked. for the most part, in quite good condition; and as for the women, they appeared as gay, dressy, and fashionable, and quite as much at their own command as we passed them along the streets, as in any other of our bustling towns. Manners have mended somewhat, probably, with "wimmen and oxen," if not with "hosses and men."

From the imperfect descriptions we had received of these "lead diggings," we had supposed that they greatly defaced the surface and injured the agriculture of the mining neighborhoods. It is but little so, however. Where lead is plentifully found, many spots have been dug into, but the usual course is to sink a shaft some feet into the earth, and indications of ore, or otherwise, will appear within a reach of fifteen, twenty. or thirty feet. If promising, the shaft is pursued; if otherwise, it is soon abandoned. When a "lead" is "struck," it usually runs in or near a horizontal line for some feet in depth and breadth. That "lead" is then followed in whatever direction it pursues; the ore taken out with picks, and brought in barrows, or otherwise, to the foot of the shaft, and drawn up in tubs by a windlass worked usually by horse or ox power. It is then washed to get off the adhering earth which surrounds it as it lies in veins in its bed, and sent away in wagons to the smelting furnaces in or near the town. Water, for the purposes of washing, is generally found in the ravines, or by digging a few feet, and many times in the shafts themselves, where pumps have to be applied by ox or horse power to free them. Some of these ore-veins run hundreds of yards zig zaging beneath the surface some distance. If these continue far, other shafts are opened from the surface down to them to admit air, and take out the ore. We were told of one shaft, through which and its continuous "leads," the fortunate owner has already cleared $60,000 over expenses, and was still in profitable work.

In others, perhaps, half that amount has been expended without a dollar of compensation; but so exciting is the occupation, that a digger hardly ever "gives up" until either his last dollar is exhausted, or he has "struck a profitable lead;" and even in the last hour of extremity has the toiling miner touched a vein which ultimately made his fortune! The ore lies in all shapes of deposit, from the boulder of many pounds' weight, down to equal-sided lamina no larger than a bean. It is of various purity, yielding from sixty to ninety per cent of pure lead, some of the scoria being simply the elastic skin that coats it as taken from the mines. Little shanties are built near the shafts for the occupation of the miners, who are mostly foreigners—either Welsh or English. They seem to like the employment, and as cheerfully toil in the depths and damps, scores of feet under ground, as in the cheerful sunlight of heaven—a matter chiefly of education and habit, we fancy.

The country lying off through the mining district is gently rolling, with timbered ridges interspersed, low bushes, and a sort of prairie, with short wild grass growing upon it. Hereabouts, however, it is mostly occupied in farms, the proprietors usually bargaining with the miners at a certain price in money for digging into their grounds, or taking a share of the ore, at the rate of a fifth or sixth of the produce. A shaft once abandoned, the proprietor fills it up and plows or plants it over.

On our return to the town we visited a

smelting establishment a mile below, and saw the pure lead run off into the heavy pigs for market. The mode is very simple. The ore is thrown into a large iron kettle, mixed with charcoal. It is then ignited and blown underneath with a powerful bellows driven by a huge flat wheel trod by oxen. A sort of pitcher-spout, just below the top of the kettle, in front, passes off the pure molten lead into a second cauldron, while the scoria which rises on the surface, like froth, is kept back by flat iron spaddles used by the hand. From this second kettle, with a renewed heat, and a pushing back of the scum like the other, it passes into the molds, where it is finished for market.

THE MISSISSIPPI.

The "Father of Waters" here indicates little of that power and grandeur which, in high flood, mark its course below the confluence of the Missouri and Ohio, some hundreds of miles below. It is a placid, pleasant stream; dark, but not muddy, of perhaps half a mile in width, separated into sundry shifting channels inclosing the islands which scatter along its bed. These islands are mostly too low for cultivation, and are, in consequence, of little practical value. As a channel for navigation it has many checks and hindrances, except in high water; but with boats of light draft—2½ to 4 feet—serves a tolerable purpose for the wants of the country. As railways increase, the impediments in its navigation will be less regarded, and the stream mainly used in high water to float off the lumber and heavy produce from the country along its borders. Draining a vast country of great fertility, in a mild and healthful climate, the banks of the Upper Mississippi must sustain large and populous towns, an extensive business, and draw from far and near great stores of wealth. Already railroads are snorting at short intervals along its borders, and stretching westwardly far into the interior, aiding and invigorating a population which are to become almost illimitable in numbers. In amenity of surface, in strength of soil, in the variety and utility of its productions to sustain human life, no stream on earth can surpass, in the length and breadth of its ramifications, this "mighty Mississippi." Spending a pleasant day, with a good night's rest at the excellent hotel of Capt. Kingman, the next morning, bright and clear, saw us again on our return eastward, some sixty miles, to Freeport; where, at the junction of the railways, we took our course southward over the longest single track in America, through

CENTRAL ILLINOIS.

The first thirty-six miles after leaving Freeport is tolerably settled in farms, and occasional villages. The several small tributaries of the Rock River, the banks of which are wooded, and some slightly elevated timbered ridges, gives the country an agreeable appearance for one so uniformly level. Many of the farms are well cultivated, with good buildings, both houses and barns—some, indeed, with the appearance of rural elegance. Many young orchards were planted, and every thing wears the look of improvement.

DIXON

town on the Rock River, occupying the valley and rising ground on both sides of the stream. It is well built with stone, brick, and wooden houses and stores, and has several handsome churches, and a fine school or two of high order. The water-power of the river gives activity to several mills and manufacturing establishments of different kinds; and the town, as we passed it, has the appearance of freshness, growth, business, and enterprise. Fine limestone abounds along the banks of the river of excellent building quality. Passing again on to the table-lands south, the timbered ridges become less frequent, and the surface assumes the dull, monotonous appearance of an almost boundless savannah, slightly undulating at times, with an occasional depression, or wide ravine, through which the surface-water sluggishly passes off to a distant stream, until some forty miles brings us to the vicinity of the Illinois river, indicated by broken surfaces, oak openings, and deep ravines, out of which crop immense quarries of limestone. After two or three miles of these we come to the immediate banks of the stream.

LA SALLE, AND PERU.

The first of these towns lies on the high table-land overlooking the river and its valley to the south, and elevated perhaps fifty feet above. It is a new, growing town of considerable business, and stretches southwest down for a mile, perhaps, where it meets Peru, at which point the Illinois and Michigan canal from Chicago unites with the river. The locks of the canal furnish a water-power to several mills, which, with the transhipment of the property conveyed either way by the canal and river boats, give active employment to several thousand population. The two places constitute, in fact, one town, so far as business is concerned; the railway passing La Salle, while the tunnage for the boats is transhipped at Peru. With the increasing agriculture of the country, its trade, and its travel, the two places combined must, in time, sustain a large and a wealthy population. The canal, which appears to be a commodious and well finished structure, passes immediately below the rather streep descent of the table-land on which the towns are built, and closely contiguous flows the Illinois, a fine—even a beautiful—stream, in itself of perhaps a hundred and fifty yards wide.

The bottoms lying along the river are too low for the best cultivation—their principal drawback; nor are they wide, which detracts much from the agricultural value, and mars, to a considerable extent, its completeness as an otherwise noble river with adequate surroundings. A substantial and costly bridge crosses the stream, over which, and the adjoining bottom for several hundred feet we passed, meeting the wooded table-land on the south, and again wound up by a deep side cutting on to the open prairie.

He e enter the vast expanse of almost limitless prairie that stretches now for a hundred miles or more through the heart of the State. Afar off were seen occasional glades of wood. The little villages along the road, some of which were scarcely more than stations with the houses of the railroad employees and laborers about them, were bare of a single tree or bush. The nucleus of a future town was now and then indicated by piles of lumber, some brick, and stone, and the embryo commencemet of—locust or cotton-wood groves, gave signs of *intention* to have *some woods* by and by. Some newly settled farms were scattered along, with corn crops lying unfenced; some with post and rail fences—after a fashion—but where the posts and rails came from it would take a Yankee to guess. Again, fields inclosed with post and board fence lay along the road. These fences *came from Chicago!* An occasional drove of cattle were seen at a distance, ranging over the prairie, and some close by, as we passed; but they were ordinary looking things, and for the most part in low condition. Some horses, mares, and colts grazed not far away, also. They, of course, were in the neighborhood of the farms. Then again, we rode for miles and miles, out of sight of tree or house, with only the stretched-out prairie and the open sky in sight. Besides our companions in the cars, except an occasional flock of prairie hens and sandhill cranes, no sign of life was visible. It *did* look lonesome. Then again, we could see, in the far distance, a house, all alone by itself, reminding us of a sail at sea. All these lands, for miles on each side of the road, are owned, or were lately, by the State of Illinois and the Railroad Company, granted many years ago by the General Government to the State to aid in building the road, and one-half of which the State gave to the Railroad Company to aid *them* in its construction. These lands, on both branches of the road, are now rapidly selling out, by both State and Company, at prices from five to twenty dollars an acre, and by the facilities of market and transportation which the road gives, will soon be settled, and improved. Timber, lumber, firewood, coal, and stone, will be brought to them by the road. Brick can be made on the ground. Trees will be planted by the million, and in the course of a comparatively short time the country will assume a habitable and comfortable look. We passed some fifteen or twenty miles of young Osage orange hedge, planted by the Company. It was done by simply ridging with plows a space about six feet wide on each side of the track, which is quite a hundred feet in breadth. The plants had one year's growth, averaging perhaps three feet high. They looked thrifty and promising. If the frosts are not too hard upon them, and the plants properly cared for, they will, unquestionably, make a good fence.

TIMBER PLANTATIONS.

It appeared to us as we passed along, that it would be good policy for a Company so rich in lands as that of the Illinois Central Road, to adopt a system of growing extensive plantations of young timber for the use of the settlers upon their lands. This proposition may be answered by saying that the Company have other business of its own to attend to, and that each settler can best provide for himself in that particular. But when it is considered that, with its great capital, and by constituting a department of this kind by itself on some of their broad acres—under the superintendence of a competent man—they could do it to much better advantage than the limited means and the hurried occupations of new settlers will permit them to do, and thus, at a moderate price, supply millions of trees, which they can easily deliver at any given point along the road, it does appear to us that a far-seeing policy tending to the enhancement in the prices of its lands, and an increased carriage on the road would indicate the wisdom of such a course. The Lombardy poplar, the cotton-wood, the large golden willow, the yellow locust, and ailanthus grow with wonderful rapidity on their lands when planted and protected. So do the oaks, hickories, and walnuts, and in five years from the planting of seeds, millions of trees could be sold for stocking the farms with the germ of respectable forests. It is supposed by intelligent men that there is now much more growing wood in the State of Illinois than there was thirty years ago when the country was new, merely from the preservation of the natural forests from fires, and the planting of young trees. The cotton-wood, Lombardy poplar, golden willow, and even the peach, which grows rapidly in the prairies, make excellent fuel when dry. The latter is grown already in some places for that purpose, and their introduction under a good system of cultivation would be of lasting service to the country at large, as well as profitable to the company.

As we approach

BLOOMINGTON,

which lies about one hundred and thirty miles southwest of Chicago, the straggling tributary waters of the Sangamon are skirted more or less with timber. The lands are better than those lying north, and the country more thickly settled. Many beautiful farms with comfortable buildings lay along under shelter of the timbered ridges. Great corn-fields, wheat, the cultivated grasses, orchards, and the other appliances of good agriculture, were now frequent. Bloomington is a fine town, lying half a mile west of the road, the capital of McLean County—an old town for *this* country, wealthy and comfortable. The country so continued on to

DECATUR,

the capital of Macon County, some forty-five miles farther south, and still along the waters of the Sangamon, which is said, by the partial dwellers there, to be the richest agricultural portion of the State. Egypt, they call it—way along southwest towards the Mississippi, embracing Springfield, the capital of the State, Jacksonville, the chief seat of its colleges, and its far-around country—so prolific is it in great corn and wheat fields, wide pasture lands, numerous droves of mules, horses, cattle, sheep, and swine. One family—McConnel by name—consisting of father and sons, keep twenty thousand fine-wooled sheep! and grand ones they are, too, if those we saw of theirs at Chicago are fair specimens of their flocks. Several fine herds of Short Horns are hereabouts, on the wide farms of the Kentuckians, Ohioans, and Virginians, together with some broad-landed Yankees who dwell thereon. Sixty-three miles further down, through a tolerably well settled country and improving farms, with occasional new villages, is

VANDALIA,

for many years the Capital of the State, before it was removed to the more central locality of Springfield. Of course, by such removal, this town is shorn of its once brilliant prospects as a *great* city. But it is still a place of local trade for the country about it, and its contiguity to the railroad will always render its position advantageous. Passing

CENTRALIA

twenty-six miles farther down, a mere station now, where the Chicago branch strikes off north-easterly from the main trunk of the road, two hundred and sixty odd miles to Lake Michigan, we shortly came into the thinner and oak-timbered lands of southern Illinois. These are sparsely settled. The soil is comparatively poor, not natural to rich grasses, or corn, but contains much lime, and is good for wheat and other cereal grains. Through a long and rather dull ride, with occasional stations and trifling villages, a hundred and twenty miles farther we came upon the deeper soil, larger and more varied timber trees, and finally struck out on to the Ohio, along which we coursed circuitously for two or three miles to the extreme southwest corner of the State.

Here, four hundred and fifty-four miles by railway from Dunleith, and three hundred and sixty-two from Chicago, every inch of it —816 miles—that railroad, owned, occupied and to be run when completed, by the Illinois Central Railroad Company, we reached the site of the long-contemplated city at the junction of the "beautiful" Ohio and the "mighty" Mississippi.

United States Agricultural Society.—In another column will be found the call for the annual meeting of the Society, which will take place at Washington January 9th.

The Connecticut State Agricultural Society's annual meeting will be held at New-Haven, on Wednesday, January 2, at 10 A. M. The annual address prepared for the State Exhibition in October, but postponed on account of the weather, will be delivered at the time of the annual meeting.

The New-York State Poultry Society will hold an annual exhibition at Albany commencing Tuesday, February 2. Premium lists can be obtained of E. E. Platt, Cor. Sec. at Albany, or of C. M. Scholefield at Yorkville, Oneida County.

We call the attention of Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, and of farmers generally to the advertisement of Messrs. Saxton & Co. By the way, Messrs. Saxton & Co. have recently moved into their new and splendid rooms, including a reading room, at No. 140 Fulton-st., where those visiting the city will find the best assortment of agricultural books, periodicals, &c., in the country.

CHANGES AMONG OUR EXCHANGES.

The beginning of a new year brings a number of changes in the proprietorships and editorships of agricultural journals, of which we note the following:

Farm Journal, published by Sam'l Emlen & Co., Philadelphia. Mr. J. L. Darlington, for some time past the able editor of this journal, has retired from his post, and is succeeded by David M. Wells & A. M. Spangler. Mr. Wells is the editor of the Annual of Scientific Discovery, and of the Year Book of Agriculture. Mr. Spangler was the original editor of the Farm Journal. Under the auspices of these gentlemen we trust this paper will continue to maintain, and even advance its former high character.

Genesee Farmer, published by Jas. Vick, Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Vick had several years experience formerly as publisher of this paper, and he is now making exertions to enlarge its size and increase the value of its pages. He has secured the services as editor of Mr. Joseph Harris, who was formerly connected with the Genesee Farmer, afterwards with the Rural New-Yorker, and during the past year with the Country Gentleman. Mr. Harris is one of the few agricultural editors in this country to whose writings on the chemistry of agriculture we give much credit for reliability and scientific correctness. We are really sorry not to be able hereafter to find the weekly editorial contributions of Mr. H. in the columns of so excellent a journal as we consider the Country Gentleman, and shall be glad to find his place well supplied. We suppose local circumstances—residence of friends and family connections—induced Mr. H. to return to Rochester, and we trust that in his new position, with the pages of the Farmer under his control, he will enjoy an extended and widening sphere of usefulness.

Since the above was put in type, we learn that Mr. Harris will still furnish occasional editorial contributions to the Country Gentleman. We also omitted to state, that Mr. Luther Tucker has associated with him his son, Mr. Luther H. Tucker, in the publishing and editorial departments of that paper, the Cultivator, &c.

Ohio Cultivator.—Mr. Bateham has sold out his interest and retired from the editorial charge of this journal, to pursue his favorite nursery business. Col. S. D. Harris, for five years past the associate editor, has now become editor and proprietor. Mrs. Bateham remains in charge of the Ladies' Department. All success to the Colonel; may he soon be commander of an army of a hundred thousand.

Conn. Valley Farmer.—This journal has become merged into the New-England Farmer. We had a little score to settle with Prof. Nash about "them bones," but we will let that pass now, especially as Prof. N.'s charge of inconsistency was wholly founded upon an entirely incorrect report of an old "speech" of ours which found its way into the Doings of the "New-York Farmers' Club"—so called—given in the Transactions of the American Institute.

Valley Farmer.—This old agricultural monthly, edited and published at St. Louis, Mo., for a number of years past, by Mr. E. Abbott, is hereafter to be published simultaneously at St. Louis and Louisville, Ky., by H. P. Byram, under the joint editorship of Norman J. Coleman, Ephraim Abbott & H. P. Byram.

Carolina Cultivator, Raleigh, N. C.—The publisher, Mr. W. D. Cooke, has secured the editorial services of Prof. B. S. Hedricks, Professor of Agricultural Chemistry in the University of North-Carolina.

THAT PUMPKIN.

Providence, R. I., has lately become noted for a "fever-and-ague medicine," (Rhodes',) and well it may, if the very soil thereabouts produces quinine pumpkins. We have drank cinchona decoctions, taken quinine in Allopathic doses, made wry faces over quassia tea, and played "shut your eyes and open your mouth" to a dose of boneset—but all these mixed, and "boiled down," would hardly produce such contortions of visage, as our "sub" exhibited when we got him to taste the specimen slice of a Rhode-Island pumpkin, received from Messrs. J. Balch & Son, druggists, of Providence, just as we had written out our last "item" for the December number.

We carefully examined this pumpkin—it may be a squash—it may be a cross of the two—we cut it in several places, and the aforesaid "sub" tried the seeds, and tasted a portion of every part, in hopes of taking away the taste of the last piece, and his final decision, uttered with emphasis, was, "It's all bitter!" Said pumpkin was raised by Dr. A. C. Whitman, of Fiskville, R. I.

Our first impression was that the doctor's "student" had emptied the quassia or quinine bottle on the ground where this pumpkin grew, or that he had soaked it in tansy or impregnated it with wormwood. But still the specimen appeared to be a natural growth, and we wrote to Dr. Whitman for something of its history, of the manure used, the plants growing around it, &c. We will inquire whether any one else has seen anything of the kind. It resembles both a pumpkin and a squash, in size, shape, color, and general appearance. We give Dr. Whitman's letter:

Fiskville, December, 1855.

Mr. Judd: Dear Sir—I received your note of the 1st inst., soliciting further information respecting the "bitter pumpkin." I will give you the history of it as far as I can.

Last spring, while preparing to plant some cucumbers, I discovered this plant, and as it looked very thrifty I concluded to let it grow. My cucumbers were twice eaten up by the striped bug, but this plant was unmolested—no bug or worm disturbing it. On one side of it was planted beets, parsnips, radishes, &c., and on the other musk and water-melons. The manure was stable and hog-pen manure made on the lot. The plot on which it grew has been used for a vegetable garden for a number of years. I do not know of anything having been put upon the ground that could have produced such a growth, and I am sure it was not impregnated with any bitter substance after it grew. The vine was very prolific, for this one stalk or vine produced, I think, fourteen pumpkins, or squashes, whichever you choose to call them. I have six or eight of them now. * * * Very respectfully yours,

W. C. WHITMAN.

Perhaps some of the curious will be sufficiently interested to send to Dr. Whitman for a few of the seeds. Why might not the extract of this "vegetable" be a good specific for the fever and ague, if it can be propagated? It is certainly *bitter* enough, if bitterness is all that is required for that ailing.

MR. THORNE'S IMPORTATION OF CATTLE.

By the steamer Washington, recently arrived at this port, Mr. Samuel Thorne, of Washington, Dutchess Co., N. Y., imported two very superior Short Horn bulls.

Neptune (11,847), deep roan, calved Nov. 14th, 1850, bred by Mr. John Booth of Killerby, England; got by Water King (11,024), out of Bloom, by Buckingham (3,239), &c. His dam, Bloom, was bred by Mr. Richard Booth, and was a great favorite with him.

Neptune is one of the most imposing looking bulls, especially in front, that was ever imported into the United States. His horns, head and eyes are fine, with a slightly arched and well set neck. He is short on the legs, and possesses a very deep, wide brisket, together with great depth of flank—thus making him a large animal in a moderate compass. We need not inform those who are conversant with Short Horns, that Mr. Booth's stock has a great reputation in England, and we are informed that Neptune ranked there as among the best bulls of his breeding.

Grand Duke 2d (12,961), nearly all red, calved Sept. 22d, 1853; got by 4th Duke of York (10,167), out of Dutchess 64th, by 2d Duke of Oxford (9,046), out of Duches 55th, by 4th Duke of Northumberland (3,649), &c. As to his breeder, Mr. Bolden claims to have bred him, and has so entered him in the English Herd Book, with what propriety, our readers will judge, when we inform them that Mr. Jonathan Thorne, the father of the importer, Mr. Samuel Thorne, purchased Grand Duke 2d's dam before he was calved, at the late Earl Ducie's sale, in the summer of 1853; but owing to an arrangement by which Mr. Thorne obtained Duchess 59 and 68, he left this calf with Mr. Bolden, soon after being dropped. Mr. T. has now paid Mr. B. the enormous price of 1,000 guineas ($5,000), just the amount his father paid for the first Grand Duke, also in his possession.

Grand Duke 2d we think fully equal, if not superior, to the first Grand Duke, which is saying perhaps as much as is necessary, to give the public a good idea of him. But to this we will add, that he is very stylish, and remarkably well ribbed up. As Short Horns are generally inferior in this point to their distinguished rivals, the Herefords and Devons, to be well ribbed up is a great desideratum in bulls of this breed.

We think the public under much obligation to Mr. Thorne for his spirit and enterprise in these importations. It will be recollected that his father, in 1853, paid 600 guineas ($3,000) for Duchess 64, the dam of Grand Duke 2d. This Duchess is now in the possession of young Mr. T., and has already dropped two very fine calves to the first Grand Duke.

ABOUT WASHING.

The Agriculturist for 50 Cents!

Reader, suppose you keep a careful account during a year of the total amount of useful knowledge derived from the pages of this journal—putting together the direct benefit received, and the indirect profit resulting from the hints and suggestions thrown out from time to time. If you do this, we should hazard nothing in proposing to take one-half, or one-tenth of that sum, as full pay for the subscription. In twelve monthly numbers we give from 600 to 1,000 articles, on a great variety of topics. How many of these furnish you useful hints? We leave you to answer.

The price for a single subscription is only $1 a year. Now we will give you a recipe which is being sold all over the country at this time, for 50 cents to each purchaser. If it is worth this price to every family, as such buyers as we have talked with say it is, you have here, in this one article, 50 cts. worth of knowledge, which, deducted from the cost of the paper, leaves you only 50 cents additional expense for all the other 999 articles, more or less. Is not this as plain as simple subtraction? Here is an exact copy of the recipe, as sold about the country:

RECIPE FOR MAKING ONE BARREL OF SOAP.

1st. Cut in slices 25 pounds of bar soap of a good quality, and dissolve the same in 15 gallons of boiling water, and let it get cold, when it will be thick. 2d. Dissolve 13 lbs. of sal soda in 15 gallons *more* of boiling water, then add to the same water 2½ lbs. of unslacked lime. Let these articles boil together 15 minutes, and when cold, turn off this fluid and mix it gradually with the soap, not disturbing the sediment; then add 2 pints of alcohol and half pint of camphene; stir up together and it will be fit for use.

☞ Secresy enjoined.☜

We enjoin secresy on all who read the above, for two reasons: First—The recipe says, "Secresy enjoined"; and, second, if any persons want the recipe, they can subscribe for the paper and get it as you do.

We do not specially recommend this preparation, for two reasons: First—Because we do not like a mixture containing so much camphene—it might be absorbed and injure the washer; and then if Bridget should use too much of such a mixture, it might injure the articles washed. In small quantities it would doubtless answer well, and we feel quite certain the mixture is as good as any of the washing fluids sold in the country for several years past, the recipes for most of which we have seen.

Our second reason for not recommending it is, that we have not tried it, and shall not so long as we have that most excellent prescription, first published in the Agriculturist, January 11th, 1854, called the "Borax Washing Recipe." This has been tried thousands of times, and we have heard it always commended when alluded to. Our clothing has been washed with the borax-soap for two years with the most satisfactory results. For the benefit of many new readers, and to refresh the memory of old ones, we will give the recipe again. It is as follows:

To each pound of common hard soap add from one-half to three-quarters of an ounce of common borax, with one quart of water. Put the water in any convenient vessel upon the stove, add the borax, somewhat pulverized, and then put in the soap cut up in thin pieces. Keep them hot—but not boiling—for two or three hours, or until the whole is well dissolved, and then set it aside to cool, when a solid mass will be formed. If the vessel is set upon the warm stove at night, the operation will be completed in the morning, though we think it better to stir the mass just before it is cooled.

The night before washing, rub the clothes where most soiled, with the soap, and soak in water till morning. This soap, which has been more than doubled in quantity, will go quite as far, bulk for bulk, as the original, thus saving at least one-half. The boiling and washing are to be performed in the usual manner; but it will be found that the labor of rubbing is diminished three-fourths, while the usual caustic or eating effect of the soap, is greatly lessened; and the hands will retain a peculiarly soft and silky feeling, even after a large washing. The preparation is adapted to all kinds of fabrics, colored or uncolored, including flannels, and is thought to increase their whiteness.

STUMP MACHINES.—Mr. Benjamin Richards, of Jones' Creek, Randolph Co., Ill., inquires concerning the best "Stump Machine;" where one can be obtained, its price, &c.; or the best mode of constructing one that will extract stumps 20 to 30 inches in diameter. We know of none for sale. Any information on this subject, addressed directly to Mr. Richards, or, if of general interest, furnished for the columns of this paper, will be thankfully received.

CANADA SUBSCRIBERS will of course remember that a part of their postage must be prepaid here, and provide therefor. The postage necessary to be prepaid here is 12 cents per annum on the American Agriculturist, and 26 cents a year on the Times.

J. G. J., OF MAINE: We do not know that the Discorea Japonica, is on sale in this city or elsewhere. It is quite doubtful whether the Wyandot corn will ripen so far north as your State. It failed this year in the latitude of Albany, N. Y. We should, however, advise an experiment with this as with all similar matters on a small scale at first.

J. F.—Readington, N. J.—Thanks for a letter and seeds, which came in after the paper was in type—will be noticed in our next.

N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The Annual or Winter Meeting will be held at Albany, on Wednesday, February 11th. See advertisement.

THE BROOKLYN (CT.) FARMERS CLUB—one of the oldest and most successful in the country—have this winter adopted the plan of holding their meetings at the houses of the members, after the manner of the ladies' sewing circles. This is an excellent plan, where the number attending is not too large; though *every* farming neighborhood ought to have agricultural club meetings so large that no private house would accommodate them. The method pursued by some of the clubs in Westchester and Dutchess Counties, N. Y., is perhaps the best, where it can be carried out: We refer to their day meetings upon the farms of the different members. This gives an opportunity to study the soil, crops, implements and practice of the several persons visited.

CALIFORNIA WHEAT CROP.—The Alta California of Nov. 5th, says that Dr. Trask, the State Geologist, has returned from a tour throughout the whole of the northern, central and southern portions of the State. He estimates the consumption of flour at 370,000 barrels a year; and from the investigation he has made, gives it as his opinion that the total yield of the present year will not exceed 390 or 395,000 barrels of flour, leaving 20 or 25,000 barrels for export, or five times that amount in wheat for seed. He also states that there is only one county in the State which this year has produced a full crop, viz., Yole. The yield in this county averages thirty bushels to the acre. Colusi comes next, producing 28 bushels to the acre. The average yield throughout the State is estimated by Dr. Trask at seventeen or eighteen bushels. There was fifteen per cent more land sown with wheat this year than last, and the falling off in the aggregate production is attributed to the inferiority of the yield, smut, rust, grass-hoppers, &c. In Los Angelos and San Bernardo the wheat crop proved a total failure, and the people, as soon as it was found out, were forced to put in corn, and succeeded in raising a small crop.

OUR EXCHANGES will confer a favor by calling special attention to the general character of this paper, and saying such favorable things of us as they can consistently. We make this request with more freedom because we are sending the Agriculturist to a large number of papers from which, on account of their different character, we derive no particular benefit except from such notices.

CORN CROP IN VIRGINIA.—Mr. J. C. Cohoon, of Nansemond County, Virginia, states in a private letter that the corn crop for the past season has rarely been surpassed within his recollection, extending over a period of about sixty years.

GRANARIES.—L. Salaville, of Paris, has taken out a patent for constructing grain storehouses by having an air chamber under the floor of the grain-room, and by having the floor on which the grain is laid pierced with small holes, through which currents of air are to be forced by a blowing machine.

PRESERVING AND SENDING EGGS TO MARKET.

The number of eggs daily brought to this market is almost incredible. These are now gathered from all the western States, where they have generally been preserved in lime-water first, and afterward packed in barrels with oats and sent forward by canal and railroad. Three years ago we chanced in a small town in the interior of Ohio, and noted the current price of eggs as 5c.a6c. per doz., at this season of the year. The local paper published in that town quoted eggs last week at 17c. per dozen, and recently we saw a barrel of eggs from the same town standing in the store of an "egg merchant" in Washington-st., for which he had paid 19½c. per dozen delivered here.

This branch of trade has become greatly enlarged and systematized within a year or two past. The country merchants in western towns, take in eggs and "pay in goods." These they pack and send direct to a commission merchant here, or more frequently sell them out to migratory dealers at the nomial cost price, depending upon the profits on their "goods" for their remuneration. The traveling dealers frequently have on hand half a million or more of eggs, and sales of 50 to 150 barrels (containing 75 to 80 dozen each) to a single egg merchant, are very common transactions.

We had the curiosity to make a little inquiry as to the number of eggs annually brought into this city, and, for this purpose, called upon several of the largest egg merchants. The books of ten of these exhibit an aggregate of receipts and sales, for twelve months past, of nearly thirty-six millions. Further inquiry showed that this is not quite one-third of all sold here. The annual consumption of eggs in this city may be set down, in round numbers, at full ONE HUNDRED MILLIONS.

A dealer in Cleveland, Ohio, sent forward 1,200 barrels to a single dealer here during the present year. The supply is seldom equal to the demand, even at the high rates usually prevailing, and the business may be doubled or trebled without sinking prices below a remunerative figure. A glance at our weekly quotations shows that the average price, during the past year, has been full seventeen cents per dozen.

We began, however, to note the manner of preserving and packing these eggs. The method now usually adopted is to take them as fresh as possible and immerse them in lime-water. This is prepared by putting a few quarts of unslacked lime in a tight barrel or cask, and then partly fill the vessel with water. It is allowed to stand a few days until the water has become saturated with lime, and the carbonic acid of the air has diminished its causticity somewhat; the eggs are then carefully immersed in the liquid. Some stir up the lime from the bottom, so as to form a milky mass. This is not necessary, and does not leave the eggs as clean and neat as is desirable. A small layer of lime in the bottom of the cask is sufficient to keep the water saturated. Some packers add a small quantity of salt to the lime "to keep the pickle sweet." This is, perhaps, generally advisable, as it will do no harm if the quantity be small; and by many, salt is believed to be beneficial. We have known eggs kept for a length of time by simply placing them in a weak brine, but the salt penetrates and somewhat injures the quality; other packers add about an ounce of cream of tarter to the lime water for each twelve dozen eggs. This is said to keep the lime from adhering to the shells, thus preserving them in a neater condition.

Eggs are usually sent forward in barrels, packed in oats. To make them secure, about one quart of oats is required to each dozen, or say two and a half bushels to a barrel containing seventy-five to eighty doz. We saw some barrels packed in this way opened to-day, which were forwarded from Ohio and Indiana, and, notwithstanding jolting on carts and in loading upon railroad and canal, scarcely one in a hundred was broken or cracked. We saw one barrel opened which was limed last spring, packed in oats in September, and received here on Saturday. The shells were nearly as clean as before pickling; there were but sixteen which were not translucent when held to a candle, and but one egg, out of 930 in the barrel, which was broken.

TESTING EGGS.

The process of testing eggs is very simple, though not generally understood. Take them into a dark room and hold them between the eye and a lighted candle or lamp. The least variation from perfect soundness will be clearly shown by a lack of uniform translucency. With a very little practice, any one can accurately inspect eggs as fast as he can pick them up, three in each hand, and pass them before the candle. If this simple method of testing eggs was adopted by all dealers, we should have a hundred times less defective eggs sent to this market, and there would not be so great a difference between fresh and western eggs, as our market quotations now show.

To Poach Eggs.—Have on the fire a frying-pan with water fast boiling, break each egg into a separate cup, slip them carefully into the boiling water; when the white is quite set, the eggs are done. Take them up with a slice, and serve on buttered toast or bread and butter. Fried eggs are done in the same manner, only instead of water a little fat is used, or a rasher of bacon.

A parent who strikes a child in anger, is like a man who strikes the water; the consequences of the blow are sure to fly up in his own face.

BROOM CORN ITEMS.

Mr. Solyman G. Hamlin, of West Glenville, Schenectady Co., N. Y., writes to the Commissioner of Patents: Broom corn for many years has been cultivated to a considerable extent with us, especially on the "flat lands" lying along the Mohawk River, and is considered a profitable crop. The principal objections to growing it on "upland" are, that it makes no fodder or manure, except the stalks, which are but of little importance, either as a fertilizer or for feed. They are generally consumed in the field after the brush is taken off.

The usual method of cultivation is to plow the land in the spring, harrow it until the soil is pulverized and mellow, and then roll it down smooth with a revolving plank or log roller. The seed is sown with a drill as early in the spring as the condition of the ground will admit, in rows, at the distance of three feet apart, and from six to eight inches apart in the drills. As soon as the corn is above ground, a narrow space of ground on each side of the row is scraped with the hoe, to prevent the weeds from hindering its growth, the remaining space being left for the cultivator, which is frequently run to keep down the weeds. The cultivation is finally finished by running the plow twice to each row.

The brush is cut while green, and as often as convenient. As it grows from eight to twelve feet high, the tops are first bent or lopped to one side and cut, with seven or eight inches of the stalk left on. Each stalk composes a brush.

Mr. Elihu Smith, of Sunderland, Franklin Co., Mass., in a communication to the Board of Agriculture of that State, describes a plot of one acre and nine rods, on which broom corn had been raised the two previous years. During fall and winter 20 cords of muck mixed with 5½ cords of sheep manure was drawn out and placed in a heap in the field. In April, 18 bushels of ashes was added to the heap and the whole mixed and turned over. The 1st of May, the heap was shoveled over a second time, and May 15th, the manure was spread upon the plot and harrowed in. The field was then planted with a Woodward's corn-planter, and 100 lbs. of superphosphate of lime put in the hills. The land was cultivated and hoed four times. The third crop thus raised on the acre and nine rods yielded 1,025 lbs. of brush which sold for 10 cents per lb. Also 67 bushels of seed 40 lbs. to the bushel—which sold for one cent per lb. Total yield $129.30.

Expenses—plowing, harrowing, and planting $2,50; manure, $12; hoeing, $7; harvesting, scraping and cleaning seed, $10; interest on land, $7—Total, $38.50.

This leaves a net profit of $90.80 or $85.96 per acre, a fair showing, though we think the expenses are placed rather low, especially for the manure. The kind of soil should have been stated.

Mr. M. F. Myers, of Kingston, Luzerne Co., Pa., states that the average yield of seed in that region is 50 bushels per acre, which is worth 50 cents per bushel. He has known $85 per acre paid for the crop in the field before it was harvested.

For the American Agriculturist.

BAKING BEETS AND TURNIPS—JELLY CAKE—TAKING CARE OF THE FLOWERS.

I have seen it recommended in your paper to bake beets, instead of boiling them. I wish to add my testimony in favor of the method. Being washed with as little of the skin cut as possible, we bake them till done, when the outer skin is removed, and the beets served up according to taste. The sweet juices which inevitably escape while boiling, are retained and concentrated, and one who has never eaten them would be surprised at the superior flavor.

The ruta baga or sweet turnip is equally improved by the same method of cooking. Not being fond of, and therefore not eating the latter vegetable, I can not speak in its favor from personal experience, but the unanimous opinion of the turnip-loving members of the household is, that boiled turnips should be eschewed by all good cooks and housekeepers.

Let me tell you a way I have of making jelly-cake, that will keep moist and good for weeks and months. Take three eggs, beat them thoroughly; add one cup of sugar and one cup of flour. Stir these well together, and add one teaspoonful cream of tartar, and half a teaspoonful soda—the latter to be dissolved in a very little water. Bake in two pie tins, as evenly and quickly as possible, taking much care that it does not bake too hard around the edges. A sheet of writing paper laid over the top will often prevent it from burning, or browning too much. Have ready a clean towel or cloth, and when the cake is done, slip it out bottom side up on the cloth; then spread the uppermost side quite thickly with currant or other tart jelly, and commencing at the end, roll it up, when it will be a round compact roll. When used, slices are cut from the end. I never have seen the above in print, and give it hoping that it may prove new and interesting to some of your lady readers.

Cold weather is coming, girls, cover up your tender roses, bring in your hydrangeas, and see that all your plants are well cared for. I have often seen tender plants preserved through severe winters, by being covered with saw-dust, straw, or the like, and protected still further, by a large box inverted over the whole. * * Libbie.

Thank you Miss "Libbie," for your valuable hints. Will not you and a hundred others furnish similar items in such quantities, that we can select two or three pages of the most new and valuable for every number?

We are not at liberty to answer your question as to the real name of "Anna Hope." When she, like, yourself, takes a *nom de plume*—(an assumed name) we are bound in honor to print that name only. We are wicked enough to excite farther curiosity by saying that "Anna Hope" is a niece of one who was at his death one of the greatest statesman of our country. She is, herself the wife of one now occupying a public situation of high character. Precisely the same may be said of her sister, Mary H. (See last volume page 67.) So "Eliza," (see same vol., pp. 105 and 210) is a daughter of one who held a very high political station in our country. If "Anna," and "Eliza," and "Mary," and "Minnie," and "Libbie," and sundry others of our esteemed lady contributors—who not only know how to write about, but also how to direct the affairs of the household so well by their own daily example—should at any future time wish for a familiar interview, they can arrange a meeting at our office, and we will then, with their permission, give a personal introduction. If "Libbie" should come, there would be a "sweet" interview; and should each bring along one article only of the cheap but beautiful household conveniences which their own hands have fabricated, our sanctum would be most conveniently "furnished."

For the American Agriculturist.

ONE WAY TO SOW RUTA BAGAS.

This is now so generally known to be an excellent turnip for feed during the winter months, and is such a general favorite, that I take the liberty of sending you the results of an experiment tried this season in its cultivation.

Having sown some seed on lists, or ridges, thrown up by the plow, they did not come up well, although put in at a good season and well covered, and the ground in fine order. Being compelled to sow again, I tried the following plan with complete success: The ground was plowed and harrowed, and the seed scattered broadcast and covered in with a gleaning rake, run both ways—lengthwise and across. They came up admirably, and when they had arrived at a size fit for working, I had one-half the teeth taken out of a harrow and harrowed them over just after a shower of rain. They afterward made rapid growth, and are now better by far than any I have on ridges, and a beautiful, even crop, with much less work.

I object to sowing in ridges, unless on very wet land, for the reasons that, these being above the general level, the ground dries so quick after sowing that the seed has not a fair chance to germinate, unless favorable weather ensue. If dry weather set in, the moisture of the land scarcely reaches the top of the ridges, in which case it is all dried out by 9 o'clock in the morning under a bright sun; and even if the seed come up well, they are more liable to be taken by the fly, than when sown on the level, as these little pests will attack them as soon as the soil is dry enough to be comfortable for them—which is much sooner the case on ridges than on the level ground. In sowing broadcast, the plants get the advantage of more moisture, beside being less trouble in sowing and working them.

The wheat gleaner, or Yankee rake, as it is called here, is the finest thing that I have ever tried for putting in turnip and other seeds. One man, with a horse, can cover more seed in an hour than three men can in a day with the old wooden hand-rake, and leave the ground in better order. With one boy and a pair of mules, or horses, he can work the seed in in a very short space of time, while the ground is in order. I intend putting the whole crop in next season in this way.—W. Summersbey, Virginia.

WASTE OF LIQUID MANURES.

The proper construction and location of barn-yards is a subject entitled to most respectful consideration. If the question, "are liquids flowing from manure heaps valuable?" were seriously submitted to the farmers of this country, it would provoke a smile of derision, that any one of common sense would propound so simple a query. And yet, notwithstanding this perfect knowledge of the fact that this liquid is comprised of a large portion of the most valuable fertilizing ingredients of the manure heap from which it flows, how very few farmers appear to consider it worth their while to save it from utter waste. We have been led to these remarks from having had very frequent opportunities during the past two months of observing the reckless indifference manifested by very many farmers in the consrtuction and location of their barn-yards. Indeed it appeared to us, that had it been the fixed design of the owners to afford the most complete escape for all the liquids from their barn-yards, they could not have accomplished it more effectually. It is almost impossible to conceive of a more complete disregard of true economy. The farmer who year after year witnesses the streams of rich liquid manure flowing from his barn-yard to the nearest rivulet, to be lost to him forever; or running along the road side, rendering it unpleasant to the eyes and olfactories, has a poor right to complain if his crops are less abundant than his neighbors. Nor should it be a matter of surprise to him if after having applied the same quantity of manure, plowed as deeply, pulverized as thoroughly, and in every other respect given his crop the same attention, the yield should fall short of his who does not permit the washing rains to exhaust the most valuable portion of his manure heap.

It should be a cardinal principle with every farmer to economise his manures. Upon it depends his success, and without it, his labors must to a very great extent, be without profit, if not attended with absolute loss. If it is found necessary to have the barn-yard on a hill side, it is equally necessary to have the lower side of it protected by a wall, or some other arrangement by which the escape of liquid manure may be prevented. It is almost equally important to have a spout to convey the rain water from the roof of the barn in some other direction than directly through the barn-yard. It is bad enough that the manure heap should be exposed to the rains which fall directly upon it, without adding to it the droppings from the roof of the barn. If such improvident farmers were to behold the actual value of the fertilizing material thus lost, rolling from their purses in the shape of dollars and cents, how energetically would they labor to prevent the waste. The loss of a single little gold dollar would stir them up to greater activity than the direct waste of a hundred times that little gold dollar's value in the form of liquid manure. Year after year, silently but steadily, the golden streams are flowing from their purses. Tell them of their error, and they acknowledge it, but rarely does it happen that being reminded of it in a friendly manner, they make a single effort to correct it. How many are there, who after a life time of steady, unremitting toil, find themselves no richer in lands or money than when they began. They can not explain the reason. Other causes may have led to such discouraging results, but if the drain of liquid manures from their barn-yards had been checked when they began farming, very many of these unsuccessful ones would have been as prosperous as their more provident neighbors.—Progressive Farmer.

Female Jockeys.—At a recent horse-race in Doylstown, Pa., twelve females, each mounted on a "sporting horse," entered this list for the prize. Among these were three circus women from Philadelphia. They started and made the race in the presence of thirty thousand people. Commenting on the proceedings, the Buffalo Express remarks: "What a comment upon the taste, the morality of the times. Here are twelve females —the wonder and admiration of the gaping multitude—on a race-course, when they should have been adorning twelve households with the dignity of modest refinement. It would have been far better for them had they been engaged that afternoon over twelve wash-tubs, rather than riding twelve horses in a heat over a race-course surrounded by vile men and imprudent women. This is a kind of progress which bodes no good to a refined and moral-toned society. When our mothers, daughters and sisters turn horse-racers and gamblers, their influence upon the generation that follow will be such as to fill the earth with all manner of iniquity."

A nice Country to live in.—A gentleman who was doing well, but wanted to do better, in Kentucky, removed to a farther western State, and, in answer to a correspondent, wrote back the following flattering account of the country and its inhabitants:

"You ask me how I like the country and the people thereof. As to the land it is cheap as dirt, and good enough, but the climate is rainy, blowy and sultry. The people die so fast here that every man has his third wife, and every woman is a widow. As for the people they are perfect Christians; they fulfill the Scripture to the letter, where it says, "Let God be true, and every man a liar!"

A wag in Detroit has been taking liberties with the reputation of the Pontiac Railroad. He was asked if he knew of an accident on that road, and replied : "Never. But once a middle-aged gentleman left Pontiac for Detroit, and died of old age at Birmingham—half way!"

What is the difference between an auction and sea-sickness? One is the sale of effects; the other effects of a sail.

For the American Agriculturist.

WORKING AND THINKING.

BY H. C. REYNOLDS.

It is a well established fact that when the powers of the corporeal organization are expended, food, rest and sleep are requisite to impart the necessary energy for labor or thought; and it is also a fact, capable of clear demonstration, that the vitality thus imparted, or generated—so to speak—may be as rapidly consumed by *mental* as by physical effort and labor. An individual continually engaged in mental exercises will, almost certainly, have a massive brain developed, while one confined chiefly to physical labors will have a more powerful physical structure. The blacksmith has a large and muscular arm; the carrier, or constant walker, sinewy and powerful legs; the student a large brain.

Far too little attention is given to the harmonious and proper development of our physical and mental organizations, or the laborer would be able to think more, and the thinker to labor more. The man of incessant physical toil, as a general rule, has little or no taste for mental exercises, and thinking, for him, is a far more onerous duty than ditching or digging; while the philosopher will grapple with the most abstruse and intricate metaphysical disquisitions for sixteen of the twenty-four hours in each day, and yet not be able to saw or chop off a log, without almost utter exhaustion.

Through whatever channel vitality is most expended, *there* will be the greatest tendency to development—even to undue proportions. Hence the man who labors *only*, without thought, must necessarily remain a laborer, because his capacity of intellect has been neglected until the avenues to it are almost closed. So little of nutriment is directed in that channel, that a sum in the rule of three would not only cause the exudation of a globular cataract from his cranium, but almost entirely exhaust his energies for the whole day.

The laborer, the farmer especially, labors too many hours before allowing time for the relaxation and diversion that otherwise would be afforded by mental exercise; and reading or study, without proper cultivation, is no relaxation at all, but really becomes a dreaded task. "Book knowledge" is odious for lack of taste or development of intellect to relish or comprehend it. Reliance is placed only upon the strong arm, because the arm is more developed than the brain.

School children who take violent exercise, in running jumping, or otherwise, can not learn so fast as those of more quiet habits; but if the exercise is not *too* violent, it will not unduly detract from their mental forces, but give a healthful tone to both their intellectual and physical structure. Discrimination is more needed in the proper development of man as a thinking and laboring being, than is requisite in any other department of human affairs—not excepting the fattening of an ox or a hog. And when time can so be dispensed as to rightly diversify our pursuits and studies, and the worker and thinker be combined in one person, new and useful inventions will rapidly increase; the most approved mowers, reapers, sed-sowers, cultivators, plows, &c., be generally used; all the fertilizing resources of the farm will be brought into requisition, and when exhausted, resort be made to those from a foreign land, or even of an artificial nature; an enlightened system of drainage, where requisite, will be adopted without dubiousness as to whether it will "pay"; and increased competence and prosperity reign over the whole land—for *reason* will direct the *arm*, and not the arm direct the reason.

U. S. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Fourth Annual Meeting of the United States Agricultural Society will be held at Washington, D. C., on Wednesday, January 9, 1856.

Business of importance will come before the meeting. Reports from its officers will be submitted, and a new election be made, in which it is desirable that every State and Territory should be represented.

Lectures and interesting discussions are expected on subjects pertaining to the objects of the association, by distinguished scientific and practical agriculturists. The transactions of 1855, containing a full account of the late exhibition at Boston, will be distributed to such members as are present.

The various Agricultural Societies of the country are respectfully requested to send delegates to this meeting; and all gentlemen who are interested in the welfare of American Agriculture, who would promote a more cordial spirit of intercouse between the different sections of our land, and who would elevate this most important pursuit to a position of greater usefulness and honor, are also invited to be present on this occasion. MARSHALL P. WILDER, Pres't.

W. S. KING, Secretary.

☞ Editors are respectfully requested to notice the above in their journals.

WINTERING SHEEP.—The productive value of a sheep in spring, depends much on the care given it in winter. If it is exposed to the storm and half starved—if it "still lives"—the fleece will be inferior, and the whole summer be required to regain the condition to which it had attained the fall before. Sheep should be kept in good condition at all seasons of the year. They should have the food and shelter necessary to their thrift and comfort—and then they will prove profitable to their owners. It is a mistaken idea of economy and humanity, which treats these considerations with neglect. Let it not be forgotten that the storms of fall and early winter are often very trying to all exposed to them—often laying the foundation for serious losses to the wool grower.

In many places, the present will be a season of scanty fodder. To make the most of it, we must protect our domestic animals from the cold—we must study their wants, and the most economical means of supplying them. Cut grain, fruit, and roots, may be profitably employed. Good water, and a supply of salt should not be forgotten. The weak should be separated from the strong and given the best care, and it has ever been found that small flocks for a single enclosure succeed the best, whether wool or mutton is the object.—Wool Grower.

WHY IS A THOROUGH BRED BETTER THAN A COMMON BREED?

We have received a few queries from one who subscribes himself a "Beginner," and who wishes to know why a thorough bred animal, such as a thorough bred Durham, a thorough bred Hereford, or Jersey, or Devon, is any better than common cattle. If, says he, I have a common bred, say native cow, if you please, equally as large and equally as fat as a thorough bred Durham cow, why is she not as good, and why should she not command as much money in the market as the thorough bred Durham, or Devon? If you wish to obtain merely the beef, hide and tallow, to be sold in the shambles, perhaps the common bred cow may be worth as much as the other. Or if you want milk, or work, you may perhaps find some of the common bred valuable as the thorough bred; but here lies the difference—if you wish to breed from them, you are not sure of getting the like from the common bred, while you may be very certain of getting the like from the thorough bred. The thorough bred, of any breed, have had their peculiar characteristics fixed by a long and careful and thorough course of breeding, it may be for centuries, so that they are pretty sure to produce a progeny possessing the characteristics of their parents. Not so with the common bred. If you have one of them, for instance, that is very good for milk, there is no certainty that her progeny will be good for milk. If you have one possessing a desirable color or form, you are not sure that its progeny will possess either; while with a thorough bred you are. Take a Hereford, for instance, with his solid, compact, mahogany colored body, and white face, and you may predict, with much certainty, that all their calves will possess the same distinctive characteristics; so of Durhams, so of Devons, so of Jerseys.

Hence, a thorough bred is more valuable than the common, not for its amount of beef, or bones, or hide, or tallow, but for *the inherent capacity they have for producing their like to a great degree of certainty.*

But can not our common breeds be brought to this capacity? Yes, if you have a genius for conducting the business of breeding according to some model, or characteristic, and could live a hundred years, or could transmit your genius to some one that would continue the experiment to that period of time, you could; but since we have so many good breeds, that are thorough bred already to our hands, it would be wiser to adopt, them, than to commence experimenting for a new breed. There will be scope enough to exercise your talents in breeding, in keeping up the excellencies and characteristics of the breeds we have. They, being artificial, innovations upon nature, would certainly deteriorate and go back again in time, if great care was not taken to keep them up.—Maine Farmer.

PLANT TREES.

The following extract from a report on orchard culture by a committee of the Oneida County (N. Y.) Agricultural Society, should be read by all. The remarks are as true of every town in the country as of Oneida county, N. Y.:

It is to be wondered even, that the landowners of Oneida are not more zealous in planting orchards. Nature has given them a soil and a climate most propitious for the raising of superior apples; inviting markets are near at hand, or are easily reached; ample inducements are held out in the direction of profit, of pleasantness, and of sentiment; yet many are still slow to enter into the full possession of their peculiar advantages as owners of Oneida soil. Who plants an apple tree in the soil of Oneida, makes a permanent investment, that may be expected to increase from year to year, until its original value is hundred-folded. Who plants an apple tree, makes a prudent provision against life's rainy days, against loss of health, misfortune in business, old age. Who plants a tree, extracts something of bitterness from the original curse. It was a part of Adam's punishment to be expelled from the society of cultivated trees; to surround one's self with them, is to take some steps towards regaining the Paradise that was lost to man by his first transgression. The planted fruit tree will be a faithful minister to its owner's profit, improvement, health, and happiness. It will stand sentinel over his dwelling through winters of adversity, when summer friends have fled. While its master is sleeping, the tree will be growing. While he is traveling, the tree will stay at home and keep growing. It will be industrious for him through all seasons, converting air, and earth, and water into shadow for his footsteps, perfume for his parlor, food for his table, fuel for his hearth, timber for his use. It will serve him contentedly through life, and minister to his wants when its life is ended. A tree has moral and social uses. It is an orthodox, wholesome preacher. It will discourse daily homilies on faith, hope, patience, and good will to men, with a gentle eloquence that steals into the heart, making it more roomy and open, and filling all its chamber with sunshine. A tree sets an example of self-denying benevolence. It embroiders its foliage, and ripens its fruit by tedious processes; then gives them all away, dropping its last leaf to keep warm the tender plant that has taken root in its shade. The poet Virgil discovers a close relation between generous character and generous fruit trees; his native land he celebrates as a "mighty parent of fruit, mighty parent of heroes." Children should have a double share of native depravity not to be made better by the kindly influences that distill about them when they are brought up in the companionship of grand and chivalrous trees. Would a man rear a monument to his memory more to be coveted than one of costliest marble, let him plant trees; they will sing his praise in measures sweeter than a poet's, hen no envious lips are there to detract.

Every Family Should Have an Agricultural Paper.—It is worth more than it costs simply for educational purposes. Parents have hardly a right to deprive their families of its advantages in these times. Children will learn more, as they go to and from school, to drive the cows to pasture, or pick berries by the way, if their observation is quickened, by what they hear their parents read or talk over from the agricultural papers; and when they form habits of reading for themselves, such reading is both safe and useful. Reader, if your neighbor has no agricultural paper, persuade him to take one; even if he is poor, he can better afford to take one than to do without it; for if he takes one, his children will be likely to be better off—to make a good home for themselves, and it may be for him in old age. Not all will have farms; but all will need to know something of the garden and orchards at least; and we advise no person, who feels that he may sometime be dependent upon his children, to bring them up without the means of instruction in rural economy. It should be regarded as essential in the education of any child, male or female.—American Cotton Planter.

WILLOWS A CROP WORTH LOOKING AFTER.

We will not venture to even guess at the number of willow baskets now used in this country. We daily pass through one street of this city, where there are apparently some thousands of them hourly coming in from a great number of large and small manufactories, located in various parts of this and the adjoining cities, and in many villages and country towns. From these wholesale stores they are sent out to dealers all over the country, north, east, south and west. That *millions* of willow baskets are manufactured every year will be readily believed when it is remembered that almost every family has one of some kind or size, ranging from the large clothes or bread basket, to the smallest work basket, or childs toy basket, while in a multitude of families, such baskets count by the half-dozen or dozen. Besides willow baskets, we might enumerate willow cradles, children's waggons, &c.

The most striking fact connected with this subject, is that for manufacturing a very large proportion of all these baskets, the willows are brought from beyond the Atlantic Ocean, while we have in this country an unlimited amount of soil equaly well adapted with any in the world to their production, and which can be bought or rented at a lower price per acre, than any where else. During the past twelve months, we have probably received from foreign countries, sixty to seventy thousand tuns of willows for which we have sent abroad six to seven millions of dollars. And the consumption is rapidly increasing. We think we have good reason for saying that these willows may all be raised here for a much less price than we pay for them, and still yield a very large profit to the growers, besides furnishing remunerative employment to fifteen or twenty thousand persons.

One great cause of the continued confinement of this business to the old world, has been the amount of labor required to *peel* the willows and prepare them for the market, which could be done more advantagously abroad, owing to the relative lower price of labor. This has now been obviated, however, by the recent invention of a machine which accomplishes this part of the work cheaply and with great rapidity. This machine will be referred to farther on. But even without any machine, willow raising could be made immensely profitable at the prices which have always prevailed for the imported article.

Before alluding further to the profitableness of willow culture, we will give some practical directions as to soil, preparation &c., chiefly furnished by Mr. Geo. J. Colby, of Jonesville, vt., who from his experience in the matter is probably the best authority in this country.

Variety.—There are several kinds of willows which have been recommended. Mr. Colby, informs us that he has experimented upon every variety he could hear of during the past four years, and finds none worth cultivating but the one known as the Osier Willow or *Salix viminalis.* All the others send out too many side shoots. In other soils and localities some of these may succeed better than with Mr. C., and he generously offers to furnish any who may wish with a quantity of cuttings for experiments. He only offers for sale, and warrants his machine to peel the *Salix viminalis.* Of these he proposes to furnish cuttings delivered at the Jonesville Depot for $5 per thousand if less than ten thousand are taken, and for $3 per thousand if ten thousand or more are taken, and for $2.06 per thousand where fifty thousand or more are taken. Cuttings can be obtained at the same prices of Erastus Parker, Waterbury, Vt. About fifteen thousand are required for planting an acre. At the above rates the cuttings for one acre would be only $45, and for 3⅓ acres at the rate of $31 per acre. To this add transportation and we have the cost of the seed.

Locality.—They have been grown well as far south as Washington D. C., and we see no reason why they may not be equally well grown still further south. Our native willows are not limited to any part of the country. The next seven paragraphs are from Mr. Colby's Circular.

Soil and Situation.—The Osier Willow, (*salix viminalis,*) can be profitably cultivated in a great variety of soils, but there are two things necessary to ensure its thrifty growth in any soil, viz.: richness and moisture—but not an excess of moisture. Wet clay, or swampy land should be thoroughly drained before it is fit for an Osier plantation. A deep, rich, sandy loam is the best soil—such as the low meadows along our rivers and creeks, that are overflowed once or twice a year—and if not very rich, a liberal dressing of manure will be of great advantage. Manure from the barn-yard is best, and it should be well plowed in.

Preparation of the Land.—Too much pains can not be taken in preparing the land, as it has to be prepared but once only, and it pays much better to do it thoroughly, than to leave it half done, as in most cases it is. The best time to prepare the ground is in the fall, when the other work of the farm is not pressing, and there is *time* to do it *well*. But, whenever it is done, the land should be plowed deep and well, and if the subsoil is hard, the use of a subsoil plow is very beneficial. It should then be harrowed and brushed until the surface is even and thoroughly pulverized.

Time of Planting.—This may be done either in the fall or spring as most convenient. If the cuttings are to be procured from a distance, it is better to procure them in the winter, as they are sent better in cold weather, and set them as early in the spring as the ground can be prepared; or the best way is to have the ground ready in the fall, and set them as soon as the frost is out in the spring, while the ground is soft. If they can not be set until late, they should be kept in a cellar, or some cool place, to keep them from growing. I have set them as late as June, and had them do well; but they ought to be set as early as the first of May.

Planting, or Setting.—This is a very simple operation, and not very laborious when the ground is mellow. But perhaps some will not know what it is that is set, or planted. It is not a *seed*, nor a *root*, but a *cutting*, which is simply a piece of a Willow rod, ten or twelve inches long. When the land and cuttings are ready to plant, mark out the land in rows, about three feet apart—and be careful to make the rows straight; as it is with this, as in preparing the land, it can be done but once, and will remain a life-time; and it will be much easier cultivating them, and look much better to have them straight, than to have them crooking about, and running into each other—as though those who set them were not brought up under the influence of the "Maine Law." But, supposing that you have your land marked off *straight*, you put a leather glove or mitten on your right hand, and take a basket or pail of cuttings in your left; stick them about *one* foot apart in the rows, and be sure you stick the right end down, leaving but one or two buds above ground. They may be set slanting, say at an angle of forty five degrees, if it is any easier than to set them perpendicular. It will require about 15,000 cuttings to set an acre.

Cultivation.—They should be cultivated *well* the first year. A small harrow or cultivator should be run through them often enough so that with the help of the hoe the ground would be kept loose and free from weeds; and it would be well to run the cultivator a few times through them the second year—until they would be damaged by breaking down the tops. After the second year they will generally shade the ground, so that they require no cultivation.

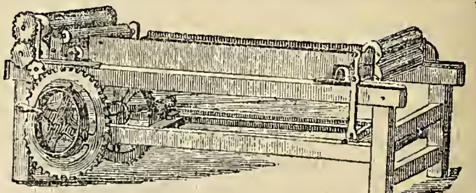
Cutting, Binding, &c.—The willows can be cut any time after the leaves fall, before the buds begin to swell in the spring. They can be cut with a knife, or with a hooked instrument made for the purpose. They should be cut within an inch or two of the old stock every year. Bind them into small bundles, and be careful to get the lower ends even. As soon as it begins to be warm in the spring, set them in water sufficiently to touch the lower ends of all, and there let them stand until they will peel, which will be in May and June, in this latitude. If you have a brook running through your land, you can easily fix a place to set them by building a dam so as to flow a level piece, and then put up poles once in a few feet, for them to lean against, so that the sun may shine on them, and the air circulate freely through them. Or, in case there is not a brook convenient, a small piece of ground, in some low place can be levelled, and after making it as tight as possible, bring a stream of water into it with spouts or pipes. It costs about five dollars per ton to cut and bind them.

Peeling and Preparing for Market.—In peeling willows by hand, as they always *have* been peeled, it was necessary to handle them all over twice, one at a time, which made it very slow business, requiring the labor of a man and a boy to peel one hundred pounds in a day; but as there is no longer a necessity of peeling them in that way, it would be needless to describe the operation. With the machine below shown, the peeling is very easily and quickly done; the operator takes a small bundle of the willows and feeds them into the machine as he would a bundle of grain into a thrashing machihe, and they are passed through and come out peeled at the rate of from one to two tuns per day. There should be a trough or vat of water so placed that the rods will fall into it as they come out of the machine, and as often as the trough is full, rinse them in the water, and spread them out to dry. When they are sufficiently dry, which will be in a few hours after they are peeled, they may be tied in bundles, and are ready for market. In binding them, put some of the thick ends both ways so that the bundles will be as large at one end as at the other, and to get them tight use a strap with a buckle at one end, and draw them together as tight as possible, then tie with strong twine, three or four bands to a bundle. They are very slippery things, and if not well bound, are liable to work loose and thus be scattered and lost. The object of having them fall into water as they come out of the machine is to remove the slime, thus preventing them from turning color, as it is very desirable to have them white.

Amount Produced per Acre.—This of course varies, as with every other crop. The first year's crop will not amount to much, unless wanted for cuttings, to increase the plantation. The second year they will produce about half a crop, and the third, and every year thereafter, a whole crop, which will vary, according to the land and cultivation, from two to five or six tuns an acre—but these highest figures can only be obtained in the very choicest situations. Two or three tuns may be considered as a fair average yield in such situations and with such cultivation as is herein described.

Marketing.—New-York City is now the chief market for willows, where the price per tun varies from $100 to $150, and even higher than this for choice qualities. This is 5c. to 8c. per pound at wholesale. The business will bear increasing to an almost unlimited degree, since they can be cultivated at one-fourth to one-half the present market price, and a reduction of this amount would very greatly enlarge the demand. From 2 to 5 tuns can be raised on an acre, with little more trouble to cultivate them than a crop of corn or potatoes. Once planting is sufficient for a hundred years.

We present here a cut of the machine invented by Mr. Colby, for peeling them, one of which Mr. C. proposes to set up in working order in our office, to gratify the curiosity of any one who may wish to see it in operation. We follow the cut with Mr. C.'s own description of the machine.



This machine consists of a frame eight feet long, three feet wide, and two and a half feet high. On one end of the frame are hung two rollers, seven inches in diameter, one made of India rubber, and the other of wood or iron, so hung that they will roll together, one over the other, and having also an endwise or vibrating motion of an inch on each one, given by the lever with a fulcrum in the center between the rollers, as shown in the figure. On the other end of the frame are two sets of rollers, one set seven and the other set three inches in diameter—all made of India rubber. The small ones roll together with the same speed as the large rollers on the front end of the machine, and the other large ones have about eight times the velocity. When the machine is in motion, the operator takes a bundle of willows, and, with the help of a table—which is not shown in the figure—feeds them into the front rollers, the same as straw is fed into a threshing machine, when the vibratory motion loosens the bark and tears it to pieces. They are then carried along on a belt to the small rollers, and the large end passes through them, when the large rollers, which run much faster, seize them and strip them through, and throw them out *clean*, while the small ones hold the loose bark, which then rolls through and drops at the end of the machine in a pile by itself.

Sweet Potatoes.—Sweet potatoes are excellent in making bread, and makes a pie nearly or quite as good as the squash. It has a peculiar, agreeable flavor, and is called easy of digestion, is wholesome and nutritious.

The recipe for making pies of the sweet potato is as follows: Boil soft, peel and mash them. To every quarter of a pound, put one quart of milk, three tablespoonfuls of butter, four beaten eggs, together with sugar and spices to the taste.

The sweet potato is an excellent crop for milk cows, and they are very fond of them.

SHRUBBERY PLANTING.

The shrubbery may be defined to be the link which connects the mansion and the lawn to the flower garden, or to the other parts of a residence, and is most generally planted either for shelter or shade, although often as a screen to hide disagreeable objects, for which the plants which compose it are better suited than for forest or other trees. The shrubbery is often a matter of utility as well as of ornament, in which case it gives the highest satisfaction when formed for the purpose of shutting out the offices or the kitchen garden from the view of the house; for sheltering the latter or the garden, or for connecting the house with the garden and the orchard, the shrubbery becomes useful and interesting.

Sometimes a shrubbery is formed merely for the purpose of growing rare shrubs, and for obtaining agreeable walks; in this case it is necessary to be at more pains, and to display a greater degree of taste in the laying of it out than in the formation of the useful shrubbery; in the former case, a tasteful arrangement of plants is a matter of less importance than the choice and disposition of kinds that will soonest afford shelter, and ultimately become thick screens.

In planting shrubberies for screens, to hide disagreeable objects, evergreens should form the principal mass, as affording a permanent blind, and giving a cheerful appearance even in winter. A few deciduous shrubs of the most showy sorts may, however, be with propriety added, which will give relief to the more sombre apperance of the evergreens, particularly while the former are in flower; but, from their nature of annually shedding their leaves, and consequently becoming thin in winter, they are not so well calculated for a permanent blind.

In the disposal of shrubs, the tallest should be planted farthest from the walk or front side, and the lower in stature in front, but if an immediate effect be desired, it is better to elevate the ground than to plant trees of too great an age; it is also a matter of importance that they may be planted thickly, as it is an easy task to thin them out when required. Little taste has generally been displayed in the formation of shrubberies as to the production of picturesque beauty; they are planted too generally in the form of sloping banks, without the least natural beauty whatever, although in this way they may answer the purpose of blinding out disagreeable objects of little merit, when seen even from their best side.

Great attention should be paid, in their planting, to give them a somewhat *natural appearance*, and not that of a surface as regular as if they were clipped with the garden shears. Straight lines should also be avoided as much as possible, and the margin of the shrubbery should be *broken* with deep indentures or sinuosities, and these should be neatly turfed over and kept mown. The walks which lead through this department should not be to any great distance in a straight line, if it can be avoided, neither should they be too much twisted. There is something in a fine gentle sweep or curve so pleasing in a road or walk, that few are insensible of its beauty. The breadth of the walks should be regulated according to the length and scale of the place, as too narrow walks for principal ones have never a good effect; they should scarcely, under any circumstances, be less than five feet wide, and, unless for terrace walks of great length, should not be more than eight; if the greater breadth, they assume the appearance of a carriage-drive, and if narrower, they dwindle in appearance to a mere footpath.

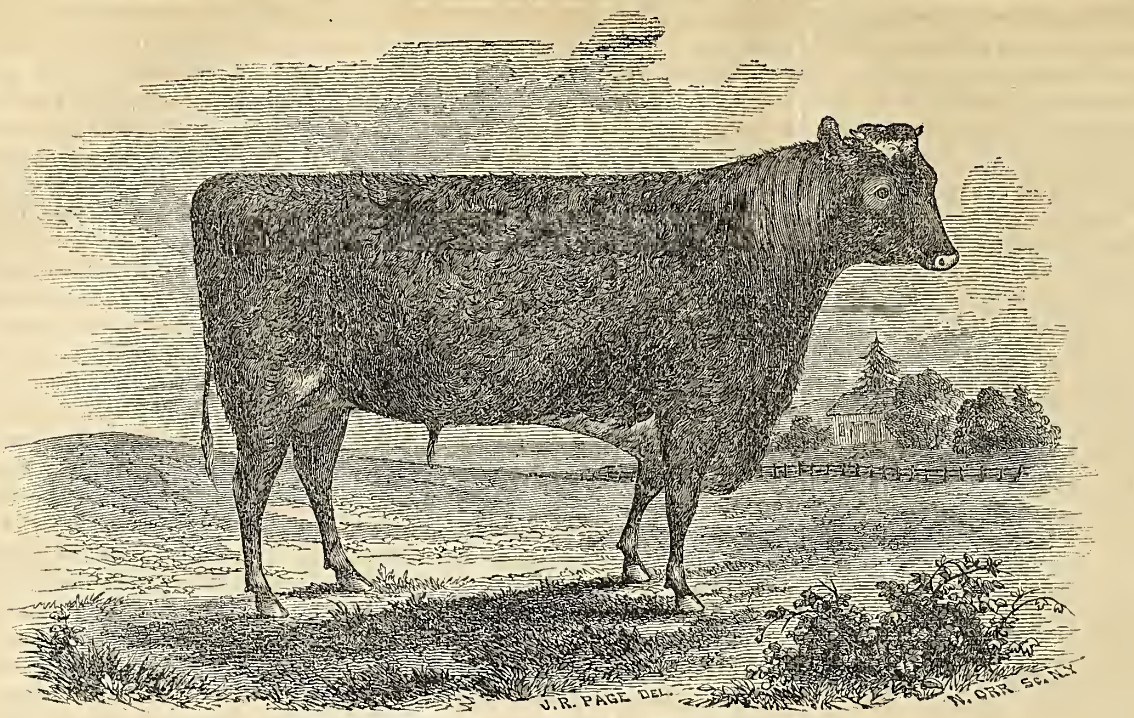
By *combining* the more distant parts of the grounds with the lawn and house by means of shrubberies, which may be done, if executed with judgment. Space does not always give the idea of grandeur, for a limited sphere is often better adapted to the display of ornament and beauty. By good management a small strip of ground may be varied, by taking advantage of the ground (if any); or, if it be a level and monotonous spot, art can readily step forward and assist by raising banks, sinking the walks, and planting shrubs in thick masses, chiefly evergreen species, and conducting the walks in the most circuitous manner, so as not to intersect each other but as little as possible; however, care must be taken to give sufficient breadth of walk, and also a margin of grass on the sides, of unequal breadths, which will naturally assist in adding to the picturesque appearance of the whole. This may also be aided by forming the banks to be planted of unequal hights, which banks, in small places, need not occupy much surface at their base, so as to admit of as great a breadth of grass margin between them and the walks as possible; in some parts narrow, where it is deemed necessary, either for variety or for the more completely concealing objects which should not be seen; at others broad, and disappearing, as it were, in natural glades, in the distance. This margin of grass, where of sufficient breadth, should be planted with the finer species of ornamental trees and flowering shrubs, singly or in groups of three or five together, which would not be seen to sufficient advantage if planted generally among the shrubs.

Some attention to botanical arrangement might be paid in the distribution of the shrubs and ornamental trees, but this must not be carried to the extent likely to infringe upon picturesque beauty; however, such families as Pinus, Juniperus, Buxus, Laurus, etc., may be grouped with good effect, and, if judiciously done, will give a bolder effect to the whole than if they were planted promiscuously. Fine specimees of larger growing kinds should be so placed as to give effect and relief to the thicker masses of more humble growth. In the background may be placed a few fruit-bearing trees, which will display their beauties in spring with their blossoms, and in autumn with their fruit; in such situations also should be planted the stronger growing species of *Cratægus*, *Prunus*, etc.

On leaving the mansion, the walks should be conducted through the lawn in a graceful and natural manner to the shrubbery, and should be as much hidden from the principal windows as possible; they should then be continued through the shrubbery, the most circuitous walks leading to interesting objects, so as to relieve the mind and remove the idea that they lead to nothing. Fine specimens of trees, ruins, either natural or artificial water, distant views of villages, churches, woods, cottages, or the like, will always be pleasing. Shorter walks should also be contrived on which to return (as most objects lose their effect when seen over and over), as well as for a more convenient mode of reaching the more distant parts of the grounds. Neat resting-places should be placed in different parts, choosing the situation of some in shaded groves, others upon elevated spots commanding the finest views of the grounds or surrounding country. Much taste may be displayed in the formation of such seats, from the polished temple of Flora, Venus, etc., to the rude roots of trees and misshapen fragments of rocks or rude stone. Arbors of living trees of flexible habits, such as Mountain Ash, Willow, etc., may be planted and formed in bowers, and covered over with creeping plants, such as Clematis, Ivy, Honeysuckle, etc. Moss houses of various construction, root-houses, Russian, Swedish, Lapland, Scotch, and Swiss cottages should be disposed of in situations peculiarly adapted for them. Sometimes situations are to be found adapted for the one or the other; in such cases the house should be chosen to suit the situation, and this will always be found to have the happiest effect. Where the situation has to be formed for either, much judgment and taste are reqired in the arrangement; this is not sufficiently attended to. Thus a Russian cottage, composed of oak timber-trees, and the adjacent ground planted with laurel and other polished shrubs, natives of southern latitudes, and close-shaven grass lawns, is as preposterous as the chaste Grecian temple in a rocky dingle. The ground should be chosen or arranged so as to persuade the observer that he is really in Russia, and the house should be composed of the same timber-trees used in the formation of cottages in that country, and be of the same form and size. The internal construction and furniture should also come as near to reality as possible. Hermitages and caves are also interesting, when proper situations are chosen; in these should be kept a small collection of books calculated for private study, and the furniture of this sequestered retreat should be exactly of that simple and useful nature as would be suitable to a recluse.—Floricultural Cabinet.

"HICCUP."—A writer in a European Medical Journal says that this troublesome affection may be cured by taking small doses of chloroform. The editor of the New-Jersey Medical Reporter gives a much more simple remedy than this:

He says for *ordinary* cases of this trouble, elevating the arms over the head, reaching as high as possible with both arms, until a few spasms have been omitted, will seldom fail of curing it.


J.R. PAGE DEL.
N. ORR. Sc. N.Y.

The thoroughbred Short Horn Bull

HIGHFLYER (578).—A. H. B., vol. ii.

Red. Bred by Samuel Thorne, Esq. The property of Samuel T. Taber & D. B. Haight, Dover Plains, Dutchess Co., N. Y. Calved Dec. 14, 1854.

Got by imported Duke of Glo'ster (11382), out of imported Diana Gwynne, by Duke of Lancaster (10929); Dolly Varden by Ribblesdale (7422); Dorothy Gwynne by Conservative (3472); —— Cripple by Marmion (406); —— Daphne by Merlin (430); Nell Gwynne by Layton (366); Nell Gwynne by Phenomenon (491); Princess by Favorite (252); —— by Favorite (252); —— by Hubback (319); —— by Snowden's bull (612); —— by Waistell's bull (669); —— by Masterman's bull (422); —— by the Studley bull (626).

SUFFOLK HOGS.

This breed of hogs are coming into general favor, notwithstanding some are very much opposed to them. The greatest objection that we have heard from their opponents is that they are not of sufficient size. Like other breeds of domestic animals, they have their variations of characteristics, and while some families of Suffolks, and indeed some pigs in the same litters, are comparatively small and delicate, others are large, more robust, and will afford, by having the required amount of food, as much pork when slaughtered, as the general run of hogs.

As an instance of this latter class, we would refer those in the immediate neighborhood of our office, to those kept by our neighbor, Mr. Hiram Reed, at his stables, on Winthrop-street, near the Cushnoe House. Here you will find a full blood Suffolk boar, of ample size and fair proportions. Mr. Reed informs us that pigs of his get have been slaughtered this season which weighed 500 pounds. Probably they were half bloods, for nothing improves the progeny of the lank, lathy, *wind-splitting* breed better than crossing them with the Suffolks.

The present breed of Suffolks are the old English Suffolk hog, which, according to Loudon, was a "small, delicate, white pig, which had for many years great reputation," and at the time of his writing, (1852,) he says "there is not only a strong prejudice in their favor, in their own country, but they have many advocates out of it. He also says that they are shorter and more *pug-formed* than the Suffolks, and by their dish face and pendent belly, it may be supposed that the variety proceeded originally from the white Chinese."

The English breeders, by skillful and judicious crossings, have made and fixed the characteristic features of the present breed, which are longer in the body and broader in the back than the old breed, thereby working out their defects and working in the good points of others. This breed are very easily kept. In summer they will live and do well almost entirely on grass. And when confined and fed regularly, they lay on fat very easily, and this fat is placed in the most valuable parts and is very fine indeed. Our neighbors, I. & J. Glidden, of Winthrop, who have followed the butchering business for more than twenty-five years, and have had much experience with hogs, inform us that they have never found a breed that would fatten so easily, or whose carcase would sell so readily as the Suffolk.

They also state that the meat from the Suffolks will readily sell for two cents more the pound than any other pork which they have carried to market.

In regard to keeping, some aver that they have found them to be large eaters, and poor growers or producers. That there may be some such, we do not deny, but they are the exceptions to the rule. On the other hand, abundance of testimony may be produced that they are kept easier and produce more from their keeping than any of the other breeds.

In the transactions of the New-Hampshire Agricultural Society for 1852, we find statements of Mr. James M. Whiton, of Holderness, in that State, made to the committee on swine. Mr. Whiton states that "previous to adopting the breed for his raising, he had made trial of the Mackie, and also the common kind;" but found them not very profitable. The following are his figures in an estimate of keeping eighteen Suffolks from June 1st to October 7th—the articles consumed being productions of his farm. Slops from the kitchen (not valued.)

11 bushels of corn at 83 cents	$9 13
9 " of oats, at 37½ cents	3 37
36 " of barley, at 75 cents	27 00
40 " of refuse potatoes, at 25 cts.	10 00
2 loads of imperfect pumpkins	2 00
Weeds and green materials thrown in, (not valued.)	
	$51 50
CONTRA.	
By a large lot of manure, from thirty to forty loads, as estimated, and five pigs, altogether not less than	$45 00
Making actual cost of the 18 (besides labor,)	$6 50

Hence he infers "it is safe to estimate that the cost of summering a store hog of the Suffolk breed, exceeds the value of the manure very little if any," and he also adds: "taking into account beyond this, the value of the pigs, and it will be seen that it is the only breed we have yet had, the raising of which affords the farmer any visible profit." What little experience we have had agrees with Mr. Whiton's conclusion. There is another breed equally profitable, with the Suffolk, and that is the Essex breed. This breed is, however, of a jet black color, and is therefore not in so much repute with the people as the white Suffolk.—Me. Farmer.

To Dress Poultry.—When the weather is very cold, cut out and make each fowl a jacket and trowsers. Put them on and your poultry will be dressed.

PREPAIRING PAINTS.

The following recipes, prepared by a practical painter, have been sold for a dollar:

1. *To Boil Oil.*—In boiling oil, never fill your kettle more than two-thirds, or it may run over and take fire. Place your kettle on the coals, simmer your oil till it will scorch a feather, when it will be fit for use.

2. *To Grind Paint.*—Put your paint on a large flat stone, with a smooth face, wet your paint with oil, and grind until fine. Be careful to grind fine, or there will be a waste of the paint, and your work will not look well.

3. *A Mixture for Drying Paint.*—Take 8 ounces of sugar of lead, 8 ounces of red lead, 8 ounces of litharage, 4 ounces of umber; make fine, put them into a gallon of oil; simmer together one hour, then strain, pour in one pint of spirits of turpentine. Add one gill to one quart of paint to make it dry fast.

4. *Painting on Wood.*—In any kind of painting your paint must be of the proper consistency, your wood clean and smooth, and you must have a proper brush, or you can not do good work. It is as necessary that a painter have good tools as any other mechanic, to enable him to make a good job. I have seen houses and other things spoiled with poor brushes.

5. *To Paint a House White.*—Mix 4 quarts of linseed oil, with one keg of white lead thoroughly. Commence at the top and paint six or eight boards at one through, using great care to lay the paint even and smooth. In putting on three coats, make the second the thickest, adding a little Prussian blue to the last coat to make the white more clear. Be careful not to use too much blue; and you must putty all the holes and cracks before the last coat is applied.

6. *Cream Color.*—Add finely ground chrome yellow to white paint, (see No. 5,) a little at a time till the shade pleases you. You must add yellow every coat to have a good finish.

7. *Lead Color.*—Add finely ground lamp-black to white paint, (No. 5,) till the color suits you.

8. *Blue Paint.*—Prepare a sufficient quantity of white paint, then add finely ground Prussian blue in oil. Add a little at a time, until the color is light or dark as you may want the shade.

9. *Black.*—In preparing black paint, grind lamp-black in oil; and as black dries slowly, you should add two ounces of litharage, to every pint of paint. Always use boiled oil for black, to give it a body.

10. *Verdigris Green.*—Wrap verdigris in cabbage or other large leaves, and place it on the hearth, over which scatter cold ashes, then cover with coals, let it roast one hour, remove, and when cold, grind in oil. This is not so apt to fade as other green, and is used for outside work.

11. *Common Green.*—This is composed of nearly equal quantities of Prussian blue and chrome yellow. It must be ground very fine in oil. The shade may be varied with white lead.

12. *Another Green.*—You may purchase patent green ready for grinding, which is beautiful if genuine; to be ground as other paint.

13. *Stone Color.*—Burn umber on an iron plate until it is of a reddish cast. No color looks better for a room if well put on.

14. *Stone Color of a beautiful Green Shade.*—Add to white paint, sufficient to make a light drab; then green enough to make a green shade.

15. *Orange Color.*—Combine white lead with chrome yellow in the proper proportion to make a bright straw color, then add red lead to tinge it to an orange.

16. *Straw Color.*—Number 15 makes a straw color by leaving out the red lead.

17. *Dark Stone Color.*—Add umber to light lead color, (see No. 7,) till the color suits.

18. *Blossom Color.*—To white paint add red or Venetian red, till the color please. Red lead is the best.

19. *Flesh Color.*—To white paint add chrome yellow enough to change its shade, then some red lead and a very small quantity of black, till the color suits.

20. *Best Copal Varnish.*—Reduce 2 lbs. of gum copal to fine powder and pour it into a copper kettle that will hold 3 or 4 gals., and melt it over a fire of charcoal. When the gum is dissolved, add one pint and a half of hot flaxseed oil, having removed the gum from off the fire, stirring smartly while adding the oil. When it is partly cool, add slowly 3 quarts of spirits of turpentine, still stirring. Care must be taken that the contents of the kettle are not too cool while adding the turpentine; if too hot it will take fire; if too cool it will not mix well. Strain while warm.

21. *Carriage Varnish.*—Manage your copal as directed in No. 20. Use 5 pints of hot oil that will scorch a feather, add 1 quart of turpentine, and proceed as in No. 20. This varnish will not crack.

22. *Gum Shellac Varnish.*—Put 2 pounds of shellac gum into 2 quarts of spirits of wine, and shake occasionally; and when it is dissolved it will be fit for use. This will not stand exposure; it will dry in a few minutes, and answers well for coffins.

23. *Varnish to render Paper Transparent*—Heat 2 gills of spirits of turpentine in an earthen vessel; when hot add 2 oz. resin, and stir until dissolved. Varnish both sides of your paper with one coat, and when dry it will be clear enough to read through. Lay this paper on a picture and mark the outlines, then cut it out, paint through the hole. In this manner you may paint any figure you may desire.—Due West Telegraph.

STEWED CELERY.—The Horticulturist highly recommends stewed celery. Cut the blanched or white portion of the celery stalks in pieces about an inch in length, and put them in a saucepan over the fire, with milk and water, in equal proportions, barely sufficient to cover them; add a little salt, and let them stew gently, until perfectly tender. Then take out the celery, add a piece of butter to the liquid it was boiled in, thicken it slightly with flour, pour it over the celery and serve it up.

POTATO DIGGING MACHINE.

Mr. Hasson's patent potato digging machine was tried on Thursday, at one o'clock, on a field belonging to Mr. Renwick, farmer, Maryhill. There was a large assemblage of agricultural gentlemen, landed proprietors, and engineers. The machine is of a simple yet peculiar construction, and is not of large dimensions. It runs on four wheels, two small ones at the muzzle, and two about the size of cart wheels on each side of the body of the machine. A sock, which tapers from a point to a plate about a foot and a half in breadth, is made to enter the drill at a depth below the deepest potato roots. A series of grapes is made to revolve immediately above this sock, which effectually scatters the potatoes above the soil, and separates the roots from the shaws. The axle of the wheels on which the machine is supported is so constructed that the wheel with the grapes is worked by it, and can be stopped on turning, or on other necessary occasions. A box is placed in the center of the machine for containing the necessary implements for yoking, unyoking, and altering the machine. It was drawn on Thursday by two horses, and worked by two men; one of them drove the horses, while the other worked the machine. The weather was exceedingly fine, and the soil was in excellent condition for the experiment. A few minutes after one o'clock the horses were attached and the machine started. During the first round it was driven at great speed, but wrought beautifully. The roots were scattered clearly above the ground over a breadth of 2 yards. After two drills had been opened the horses were stopped for a few minutes, and the gentlemen who were on the ground having assembled around the machine, Mr. Hanson, the inventor, who was present, proceeded to explain the mode of operation. He said that he had a shaft which could be attached to it for the purpose of supporting a plate of zinc against which the potatoes would be thrown, so that they would fall in a regular line, and not be too much scattered. We afterwards heard Mr. Hanson explain that the machine could lift turnips at a distance of 6, 9, 12, or 18 inches by the attachment of hoes instead of grapes. He also stated in answer to a question put to him, that it could easily be made to throw the potatoes to both sides, so that it might be made to lift a field without requiring to turn round a number of drills. Not a single root was cut or injured in the slightest degree, and none were left in the ground. The method of lifting potatoes with the grape can not at all be compared with it, and it works with about double the speed of the common plow, while it destroys none of the crop.—Scottish Daily News.

The best cough mixture that has been made consists of a pair of thick boots, mixed with lots of air and plenty of exercise. People who hug the stove and grow lean will please take notice.

A good word is an easy obligation; but not to speak ill, requires only our silence, which costs us nothing.

THOUGHTS FROM MY GARDEN SEAT.

Morning-glories!—One, two, three, four, five varieties! pale blue, white, pink, dark purple, glowing crimson, and white flecked with blue and crimson—airy as the clouds, with a living, transparent brightness in their cups, as if they were woven of light and air. Other flowers have their days, some their weeks, of gradual development—of nature fullness—of slow decay; the mornig-glory is new every morning. It has only a few fresh hours, and then closes forever, and instead of a half-withered, slowly-decaying flower, lo! to-morrow, we have all new ones, sprung as by one magic touch from the womb of night. Ages ago, the Hebrew poet said of the fairest and only One, the source and essence of all beauty, His mercies are *new* every morning.

These morning-glories, in their unvalued commonness, and yet their strange, ethereal beauty, are a living emblem of that daily love which God shows us daily, when we wake from the seeming death of sleep to a new lease of life—a new present of all its adornments and comforts.

Our garden is a perfect jungle of petunias—that flower so encouraging to the souls of immature gardeners, so hopeful, so hardy, so full of vanity, so persistent in bloom that no exuberance can possibly exhaust it. We have taken from the ground a petunia that has been flaunting its blossoms all summer, cut it down for our winter window-garden, and seen it bloom there with new vigor all winter; and when spring came, go back into the ground and flower on all summer, without one pause suggestive of weariness. Ah! how few among our living friends are there that correspond to petunias.

Verbenas also are an encouraging growth, requiring only sunshine enough for untiring bloom. People with shaded borders should eschew them, for they will not blossom without a plenary fullness of sunlight. Too much sun and heat they scarce can have, and they lift their heads to it with an exultant glow; they are like rich, poetic, artistic natures, which revel in congenial warmth and culture, but become wilted, bloomles and stinted, in cold, shaded, ungenial situations. Many persons can no more be judged of, in such situation, than can the verbenas which some of our neighbors are fond of planting in shady borders under the drip of over-arching trees. "I see no beauty about the thing," they say; "it's a miserable, yellow, lank-growing vine, without form or comeliness." Yet, friend, give it sunshine, and you will see what it can do. Some of the most goregous and splendid natures may have, all their lives in this world, passed for miserable failures—simply because the sunshine of congeniality and opportunity never awakened what was in them to bloom; and there may in the future life be glorious blossoms on plants which seemed poor and stunted here.

But, oh, these weeds! What! only a week since garden beds and alleys were faithfully cleaned, and now behold!

Yet one word about these weeds. A friend said to us the other day, Does it not seem a piece of impertinence to seize on a piece of ground and vehemently uproot and destroy everything that nature inclines to place there and insist on the growth of something which apparently she cares very little about? Who does not see that mignonette, larkspurs and cypress vines are not nature's pets? She expresses herself with a far more hearty energy in burdock, pigweed and smartweed. These are her thrifty children; our so-called flowers are her step-sons, penuriously and grudgingly brought up. What makes one thing a weed and another a flower? We have seen growing, in trodden paths by the sand and dust of the wayside, weeds fairer than some greenhouse nurslings. The weed of one country is the cherished exotic of another. Our mullein flourishes in English gardens under the cognomen of the American velvet plant, and the wild heath of her moors is our greenhouse nursling.

We have thought sometimes that flowers, could they speak, would complain of this capricious standard of valuation. But the same thing runs through the living world. There is *one* Mrs. A. who is broad and fat, a coarse talker, a loud laugher, a heavy feeder, and there is *another* Mrs. A. who is just the same—but the world calls one of them a flower and the other a weed. One is the rich Mrs. A. and the other is the poor Mrs. A., and that makes all the difference. One is designated as *em bon point*—the other as broad and fat. One is insufferably vulgar—the other is "*so* peculiar and original;" in short, one is the garden plant and the other the roadside weed.

We confess to certain remorseful yearnings in favor of weeds, when we observe the persistent assiduity with which nature endeavors to give them a foothold in the world. How is a believer in universal toleration and freedom of development to reconcile it to his conscience to give pigweed and purslane no chance? Pigweed has his æsthetic merits; his leaf is elegant; in good soil he becometh soon a shapely shrub. Whoso will examine the pink leaves of a very young pigweed through a microscope, will find them frosted with a glittering incrustation of the most brilliant beauty. A few sparkles of dew lying cradled in those pink leaves have often stayed our hand in full process of weeding, and raised the query, Why should this be only a weed? About smartweed, now, the question is easily answered. He has no graces, no fine points; his leaves of a dingy hue with dull spots—his flower of a dirty pink—his odor coarse and rank; all declare him to be a weed by nature as well as position.

One of our own ideas of a garden is a certain wild *abandon* or freedom of growth, similar to what one sees in woods and hedges. Trim gardens, where every plant is propped and tied, and divided with exactest care, have their own beauty, but there is (so at least we hope) beauty also in dense masses of flowers which grow, and twine, and mingle together as if nature had planted them. Perforce, such has been the shape of our own gardening affairs; our beds are so full that the ground is scarcely to be seen; flowers lean over each other—vines intertwine, they mat, and run, and blossom in each other's embrace, as if they grew in a meadow. Here and there a hardy weed, if he have any prepossessing points, is allowed a niche, unless some amateur young gardener, zealous for etiquette, pulls him up in our absence. Humming-birds and sparrows come and go among our flowers, every day, as we explore the jungle, we find some new development.

This humming-bird—child of air and light! winged jewel! ethereal vision! what shall we say of him? Suppose some good, clucking hen, as she scratches in the garden, should deliver to her chicks an opinion of him. Standing on one leg, with her eye cocked upward, she watches his gyrations as he dips first at the coral tubes of the honeysuckle, and then dances through beds of petunias and verbenas. "See, my children," she says, "what absurd, irrational conduct! Did you ever see *me* do so? What if I should go flying about, pecking honeysuckle blossoms? Don't tell me that a bird can live on such fare as that! Don't it take corn-meal, potatoes and worms to keep us alive, and can a living be got by figuring round among roses and jessamins? What utter neglect of all solid tastes and pursuits! If I had the bringing up of that creature, she should learn to scratch and eat corn-meal as a rational bird should! Don't tell me about her fine colors—all trumpery! and graceful motions—pah! what are they good for? do they dig a single worm, or hatch a single chicken?"

Many of the judgments which human beings pass on each other are about as sensible as this. H. B. S.—Independent.

Destroying Bee Moths—A simple method purposed.—Mr. Garnsey, in the Genesee Farmer, recommends raising the hive an inch from the bench by placing small blocks under the corners; and carefully fill every crevice in the bench so as to deprive the moths of their usual hiding places. Next take a little board, say three by six inches, and one-half inch in thickness, and with a knife or some other sharp instrument cut it full of grooves upon one side; let the grooves extend through half the thickness of the board. Thus prepared, slide it under the hive, the grooved side down. This furnishes the moth with exactly such a place as they desire, and all you have to do is to remove your trap from one to three times a week, and destroy what you find in it. Small rods of elder, divided lengthwise and the pith removed, will answer, though not as well as a board with grooves in it. This remedy can be tested without the least expense. Let all those who may have occasion or opportunity give it a trial, and satisfy themselves whether it will pay to practice it or not.

To Cure Hams.—First ascertain what is the matter with them. Then apply the proper remedy, and if you do not succeed in curing them, it isn't your fault.

An auctioneer does as he is *bid*, a postmaster as he is *directed!*

REASONS FOR GROWING RUTA BAGAS.

Turnips, both of the Swedish and common varieties, are cultivated to a much greater extent in England than in this country. A few years ago we met with a statement to the effect that the annual value of the turnip crop of England, with a population about the same as that of the United States, was somewhere in the vicinity of 20 millions of pounds sterling, or nearly equal to $100,000,000. About the same time the turnip crop of the United States was so inconsiderable that it was not included or reported in the census returns of 1850 at all. According to the above estimate and the census returns of the agricultural products of the United States, the turnip crop of England not only exceeds that of the latter country immeasurably, but is fully equal to the largest crops which we raise. According to the census of 1850 the wheat crop of the U. S. was a little over 100,000,000 bushels, which at $1 per bushel would make the value of it just equal to the estimated value of the turnip crop of England. In 1850 the hay crop of the U. S. was 12,838,642 tuns; and this at eight dollars per tun would again be about of the same value as the turnip crop of England. From these data it is very obvious that this crop is much more highly valued in England than in this country, and much more extensively cultivated.

We were led to make the examination of the census returns, &c., the results of which have been just stated, in consequence of a visit lately made to an English farmer, who is somewhat celebrated for raising ruta baga and other root crops. He has raised crops of ruta bagas averaging over 600 bushels per acre, for several years, and notwithstanding that he makes as widely known as possible what he esteems as the advantages and recommendations of this crop, still very few of his neighbors have ever been induced to try to raise it. This seems truly surprising considering that the recommendations which he gives of this crop do not fall much if any below a dozen in number. Of these we remember the following as the most important.

1. Ruta bagas are a very profitable or remunerative crop, as an acre will generally produce from 500 to 800 bushels with an expenditure upon it, for seed, labor, &c., of from $20 to $30. Our informant stated that no crop he had ever raised had cost him as much as five cents a bushel, and that for feeding all kinds of stock he estimated them, by a comparison with the value of hay, &c., at average prices, to be worth as much as twenty-five cents per bushel. After deducting expenses of cultivation there would be, according to this estimate a *net* profit of *over* one hundred dollars per acre. Our informant assured us that repeated trials of this root as to its feeding qualities had made him confident, or as he phrased it, "perfectly certain and no mistake," that there is no crop that he raises, or that is usually raised in northern, middle, and western States, which is as profitable, per acre, as this crop.

2. Ruta bagas make a good and palatable food for oxen, sheep and hogs. Horses, also, often eat them.

3. Sheep are particularly fond of them and thrive on them.

4. They are especially good for ewes having lambs.

5. They can be kept easily until there is a good supply of grass in the spring. They do not become pithy or deteriorated in their feeding qualities as white turnips do.

6. They can be planted as a second crop, as the last week in June or first in July is about the right time of sowing, in the latitude of 42° and of two or three degrees on each side of that.

7. They do not "run the land" as they derive much of their nourishment from the atmosphere.

8. They can stand in the ground till all other fall work is disposed of and out of the way.

These and some minor advantages of this crop, having been set forth with some earnestness and enthusiasm, have deepened our conviction of the importance of it. To aid in fixing in other minds a similar conviction we have been induced to make a record of the principal recommendations which may be urged in favor of *increased* attention to this crop so generally and so unwisely neglected.—Obs., in Co. Gent.

HUSK BEDS.

As each autumn has returned, for several years past, we have advised all corn-growers to save their husks, for under-beds, believing they are the very best substance for this purpose that is or can be used. They should be the inner husks, clean and whole, and spread on some airy floor for a few days in order that they may become perfectly dry. Then they may be put into the ticks and they will last for many years. We have some of the under-beds now in our house which have been in use more than twenty years; and with an annual ventilation and beating, by being emptied on a chamber floor, and with a little replenishing with new husks, they are now as good and lively as when new. The husks had better not be stripped up as some have done. This makes the substance finer and more liable to mat up. Let the husks be whole, and, drying in irregular shapes, they will retain those shapes and lie lively in the bed for a long time. There is a beard, or furziness, on each husk that prevents any insects crawling through the beds; consequently they are entirely free from vermin, of which straw is apt to be full. They are, therefore, clean, sweet and healthy. A good husk bed is equal to the best mattress for summer use, and we have slept in feather beds in winter not half so soft as these.

The best time to save the husks is when in the act of husking the corn. By a little practice, the husker will soon learn how to strip off first the outside, coarse husks, and by another motion, seize the inner ones, (removing the silks at the same time,) and dropping them into a basket at his side. It will take a little longer to husk out a bushel of corn so, but the husks will most richly repay for the extra time. When this process has been omitted, it will not be a great job to visit the husk pile after the corn is removed, and by hand, pick out enough of the clean, inside husks to make a bed. We consider such a bed worth a five dollar bill. After being made, there is no need of ever going after straw with which to fill the under beds. The job once done, is done for life.

Drew's Rural Intelligencer.

TAKING CARE OF OUR BODIES.

COLD FEET

are the avenues to death of multitudes every year; it is a sign of imperfect circulation, of want of vigor of constitution. No one can be well, whose feet are habitually cold. When the blood is equally distributed to every part of the body, there is general good health. If there be less blood at any one point than is natural, there is coldness; and not only so, there must be more than is natural at some other part of the system, and *there* is fever, that is, unnatural heat or oppression. In the case of cold feet, the amount of blood wanting there, collects at some other part of the body which happens to be the weakest, to be the least able to throw up a barricade against the in-rushing enemy. Hence, when the lungs are weakest, the extra blood gathers there in the shape of a common cold, or spitting blood. Clergymen, other public speakers, and singers, by improper exposures often render the throat the weakest part; to such, cold feet gives hoarseness or a raw burning feeling, most felt at the little hollow at the bottom of the neck. To others, again, whose bowels are weak through over-eating, or drinking spirituous liquors, cold feet give various degrees of derangement, from common looseness up to diarrheas or dysentery; and so we might go through the whole body, but for the present, this is sufficient for illustration.

If you are well, let yourself alone. This is our motto. But to those whose feet are inclined to be cold we suggest: As soon as you get up in the morning put both feet at once in a basin of cold water, so as to come half way to the ankles; keep them in half a minute in winter, a minute or two in summer, rubbing them both vigorously, wipe dry, and hold to the fire, if convenient, in cold weather, until every part of the foot feels as dry as your hand, then put on your socks or stockings.

On going to bed at night, draw off your stockings and hold the feet to the fire for ten or fifteen minutes until perfectly dry, and get right into bed. This is a most pleasant operation, and fully repays for the trouble of it. No one can sleep well or refreshingly with cold feet. All Indians and hunters sleep with their feet to the fire. Never step from your bed with the naked feet on an uncarpeted floor. I have known it to be the exciting cause of months of illness.

Wear woollen, cotton or silk stockings, whichever keeps your feet most comfortable; do not let the experience of another be your guide, for different persons require different articles; what is good for a person whose feet are naturally damp, can not be good for one whose feet are always dry. The donkey who had his bag of salt lightened by swimming a river, advised his companion who was loaded down with a sack of wool to do the same, and having no more sense than a man or woman, he plunged in, and in a moment the wool absorbed the water, increased the burden many fold, and bore him to the bottom.

SLEEP.

There is no fact more clearly established in the phosiology of man than this, that the brain expends its energies and itself during the hours of wakefulness, and that these are recuperated during sleep; if the recuperation does not equal the expenditure, the brain withers—this is insanity. Thus it is, that in early English history, persons who were condemned to death by being prevented from sleeping, always died raving maniacs; thus it is also, that those who are starved to death become insane; the brain is not nourished, and they can not sleep. The practical inferences are three:

1st. Those who think most, who do most brain work, require most sleep.

2d. That time "saved" from necessary sleep, is infallibly destructive to mind, body and estate.

3d. Give yourself, your children, your servants, all who are under you, the fullest amount of sleep they will take, by compelling them to go to bed at some regular, early hour, and to rise in the morning the moment they *awake of themselves;* and within a fortnight nature, with almost the regularity of the rising sun, will unloose the bonds of sleep, the moment enough repose has been secured for the wants of the system. This is the only safe and sufficient rule; and as to the question *how much sleep any one requires*, each must be a rule for himself; great Nature will never fail to write it out to the observer, under the regulations just given.—Hall's Journal of Health.

MOVING A SULLEN OX.

Noticing in the Stock Register for August, an extract headed "How to move a Sullen Ox," it brought forcibly to mind my little experience in that matter. When a boy, I frequently had the management of oxen, one of which was at times particularly sullen, or *baulky*, as we then termed it, and my ingenuity and wit were put to the test to devise some means to induce the stubborn animal to drive. At last I hit upon a plan, as the sequel will show, which effectually accomplished my purpose, and cured him in a measure of his hanging back propensity.

On a certain day in winter I was sent hauling wood with the oxen and sled. My road led over a bridge, and up a short but quite steep hill. Having arrived at the foot of the hill on the bridge, with a load, my team came to a dead stand still, and, as coaxing and whipping proved of no benefit, I bethought me of procuring the services of the "*old tom cat*," and applying him. I found tabby quietly sleeping on the hearth, and taking him in my arms, quickly retraced my steps to the oxen. My purpose was to apply the cat to the back of the ox and draw him backwards by the tail. I *did so;* but no sooner had the ox felt the claws of the feline monster enter his hide, than I found myself turning a back somerset thro' the air, off the bridge, with a propelling force I was powerless to withstand, accompanied by a tremendous squall from the poor puss. I brought up, or more properly *down*, some twelve feet below, in the bed of the stream, amid snow and water. Without waiting to contemplate my situation, I extricated myself and repaired to the scene of my exploit on the bridge. But lo! neither oxen, wood, nor cat were to be seen; all had mysteriously disappeared—but, as I subsequently found, the oxen brought up all safe in the woodhouse, with the load of wood.

Ever after when the old ox took it upon him to sulk, I had only to show him the cat, and a pinch of the tail would make him straighten himself for very life. But I was extremely careful to keep out of reach of his heels.

Thus much for my experience in *moving a sullen ox.* W.

IRON AND LEAD PIPES FOR CARRYING WATER.

"A Farmer" wishes to lay down a pipe for conveying water to his house and barns, from a spring half a mile distant, and inquires whether iron pipe is not better and cheaper than that made from lead. He does not state the size of the pipe desired nor the make of the ground in which the pipe is to be laid. We will, however, make a statement or two, which may be of use to him and others.

Relative Cost.—The manufacturer's prices in New-York are about as follows:

For iron pipe, having an interior diameter or bore of ½ inch, 10½ cents per foot; ¾ inch bore, 13 cents per foot; 1 inch bore, 17½ cts. per foot; 1¼ inch bore, 26 cents per foot; and for 1½ inch bore, 32 cents per foot. These pipes are made of wrought iron, in pieces 10 to 12 feet in length, and are supplied with coupling screws upon the end of each piece.

For lead pipes of all sizes the charge is now 8¾ cents per pound. Lead is one cent per pound higher than a few months since, owing to the great war demand. Lead pipe varies greatly in thickness, thus: a pipe ½ inch internal diameter is made of the following weights, ½ lb., ¾ lb., 1 lb., 1¼ lbs., 1½ lbs., 1¾ lbs. and 2 lbs. per foot. Lead pipe of 1 inch interior diameter is made weighing 1½ lbs., 2 lbs., 2½ lbs., 3 lbs., 4 lbs. and 4¾ lbs. per foot. The lighter weights are too thin for conveying water, being chiefly used for gas pipes in protected situations, within the walls or ceilings of buildings; for example, a lead pipe 1 inch in diameter, and weighing 2 pounds per foot, the thinnest practicable for conveying water, costs twice 8¾ cents, or 17½ cents per foot, which is just the cost of an iron pipe of the same diameter. A comparison of the above figures shows that lead pipe of any diameter may be selected of such thickness as to exactly equal the cost of iron pipe of the same size.

Relative value of Lead and Iron Pipe.—In all exposed situations, where pipe is liable to bruising iron is preferable, if there be no serious objection to its use. Iron rusts more readily than lead. This property does not injure it for conveying dry gases or *pure* water, but spring-water generally contains acids of some kind, which will more rapidly corrode or rust iron than lead. Most of the compounds formed in the corrosion of lead are washed, while iron-rust is generally insoluble, and there is danger of its filling or clogging iron pipes. The thick reddish "scum" observed upon the surface of many sluggish springs, is the rust of iron washed out from the soil. A soluble sub-oxide is first formed in the soil, which is changed to the insoluble red oxide when it comes to the air. The water conveyed in pipes is generally charged with air, so that this red oxide would be formed within them, especially if there is not a sufficient current of water to keep them clear.

One advantage possessed by iron over lead pipes is, that while the salts formed by the corrosion of lead are poisonous, the salts of iron are comparatively harmless, especially if the water has been for sometime exposed to air.

When carefully laid under ground, lead pipes are far more durable than iron; the former often lasting fifty or a hundred years, while the latter sometimes rust through in five or six years, or less. Old iron pipes are of little value, while old lead pipe will sell for one-half or two-thirds its first cost. Lead pipe is more conveniently laid down, as it is easily bent around large stones, and to fit any irregularities in the soil.

Everything considered, lead pipe is to be preferred to iron for conveying water or gases under ground, even when it is required to be of such size and thickness that the first cost will be considerably higher.

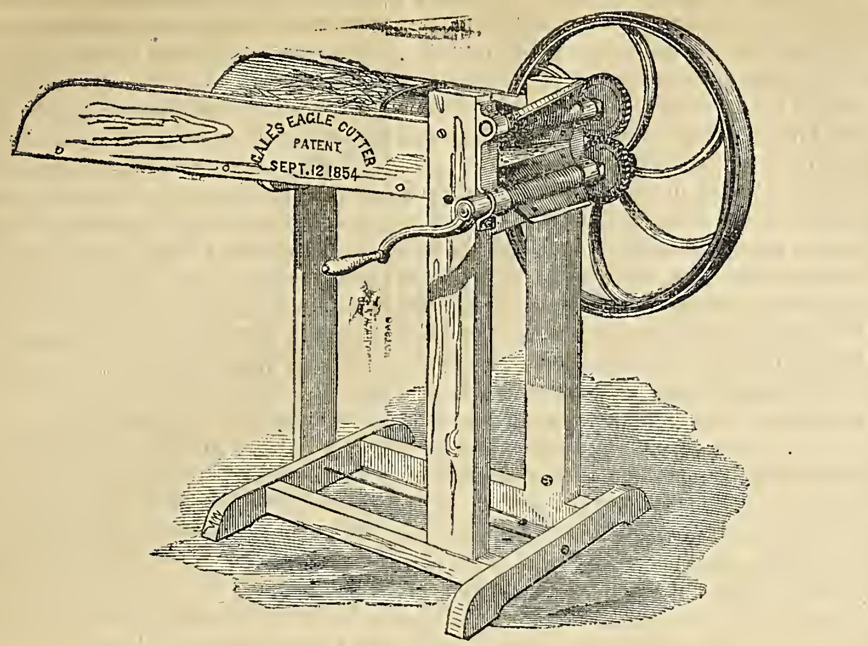
PAINTING FARMING IMPLEMENTS.—A great saving may be made by keeping implements constantly under shelter when not in use. But this is nearly impossible; and besides, many of them must of necessity be exposed during their employment, to many days of hot sun and occasional showers. It is therefore very important to keep them *well painted.* As a general average, they will last twice as long by the protection of a coat of paint, renewed as it is worn off.

A learned writer says of books: "They are masters who instruct us without rods or ferules, without words or anger, without bread or money. If you approach them they are not asleep; if you seek them they do not hide; if you blunder, they do not scold; if you are ignorant, they do not laugh at you."

A NEW FENCE.—The Lowell Advertiser says that the Rev. Mr. Gates recently married Mr. Joseph Post to Miss Martha Rails.

Difficulty of achievement stupifies the sluggard, advises the prudent, terrifies the fearful, and animates the courageous.

Everything is ominous to the superstitious.



GALES' EAGLE CUTTER.

CUTTING STRAW, &C., FOR MANURE.

It hardly seems necessary at this late day, to offer a word in reference to the advantages of using a cutting machine for all kinds of coarse food, such as straw, cornstalks, hay, &c. To say nothing of the economy of cut feed, we should recommend cutting up the coarser materials designed merely as bedding for animals, and especially that thrown into the yards. Where this is done, the manure is much more readily rotted, while it can be spread upon the land with far greater facility and uniformity. This point is not generally considered sufficiently. Manure while rotting in the yard is constantly losing some part of its most valuable elements, and yet long straw can not be well incorporated with the soil until it is thoroughly decomposed. But by cutting it short it can be well distributed even without any previous rotting, and then the elements escaping during decomposition are retained by the soil for the use of growing plants.

But this by the way. We commenced this writing to answer the question so very often asked of us, viz: "What is the best cutting implement in market?" There are so many of these, that are good, and so many new modifications constantly coming out, that we seldom answer this question. At the present time the machine illustrated by the cut above seems to be one of the best, if not the best. Its main features are simplicity and durability, combined with rapidity of working. There are two knives somewhat spiral set opposite to each other on the shaft, bearing the balance-wheel and crank. Upon the shaft above this are two sets of spiral clamps, between which are placed pieces of raw-hide. As the handle is turned the edge of the raw-hide comes against the knife, the two draw in the straw or stalks and cut them off at any desired length. There is no complicated machinery to get out of repair. The chief wear is upon the raw-hide, but even this is so strongly clasped by the clamps as to wear very slowly; and where the edge wears down, a new portion can be raised up by turning a couple of screws. When the raw-hide wears out entirely, a new flat piece can be put in and adjusted in a few moments. The machine works very rapidly and perfectly, and is coming into general use, especially among the stable keepers in this city. We have not compared the cost of Gale's cutters with others, but the prices for these—$12 to $20—are, we think, rather below other machines of equal or less capacity.

Ground Oats.—A late number of the American Veterinary Journal contains the following article on the value of ground oats:

Ground oats furnish more nutriment, and keep the bowels in better condition, than when served out whole. By grinding the oats we separate them into a myriad of particles, and present them to the gastric solvents in a form calculated to secure their speedy digestion—in fact, they are in a condition favorable to speedy insalivation.

Ground oats are more nutritious than *whole*, for the same reason that flour is more so than unground wheat.

Ground oats contain more of the nitrogenous, or flesh-making principle, than any other kind of horse food; at the same time they furnish a mixture of coarse and fine food—the husks of the oats constitute the first, and meal the latter. The coarse material serves to keep the bowels in a soluble condition—irritate and excite the mucous coat, and thus obviate the necessity for drastic medicine. This kind of food is decidedly the healthiest for working horses. They require, however, a certain quantity of sweet hay, in view of distending the stomach to a healthy capacity.

Manure Heaps.—One of our foreign exchanges, has a communication from Mr. Robert Austin, Manchester, who says that upwards of a tun of horse dung is produced in his stables daily, and the usual offensive odor and evaporation from it entirely prevented by sprinkling over the dung heap, by means of an ordinary water can, a solution of a pound of common green copperas in a gallon of water.

TO THE PEOPLE OF NEW-JERSEY.

The State Agricultural Society has now been in existence for nearly one year. Its origin was in the desire which manifested itself in various sections of our State for an organization similar to those which were producing such beneficial results in other States, and its objects were the exhibition of our actual condition, the more thorough development of our resources, and the discovery and application of such means as would most benefit New-Jersey, especially through the Agricultural and Manufacturing interests.

In fulfilment of these objects, the officers have endeavored to present the Society in its true light to their fellow citizens. Aware of the slanderous accusations so freely uttered against this State, they had prepared a statistical statement, in which from authentic sources were presented undeniable facts to refute mischievous error, and which, in its wide circulation, gave to the people what at once instructed and interested. Seeds, documents, &c., have been freely circulated, but the first Exhibition of the Society, has been emphatically *the feature* of their operations. No one visited the Fair at Camden having the least interest in our present condition or future advancement, but was impressed with its importance and triumphant results. It was the first effort, and made amid discouraging circumstances, but it was successful. The people of New-Jersey were brought together; new implements, seeds and processes were placed under personal inspection; opinions were advanced, sentiments exchanged, and the basis for more extensive usefulness securely laid.

Thus much has been accomplished, but it is desired to still further increase the benefits of the Society. It is intended to establish correspondence and exchanges with the societies of other States and Countries, and to glean from them the fullest possible information which shall tend to the advancement of Agricultural interests; the same to be freely and widely disseminated. County organizations and Farmers' Clubs should be established, and those means be employed which shall best promote the interchange of ideas, and the circulation of practical and profitable knowledge.

In this work the influence and coöperation of all, is requested. The payment of one dollar constitutes one a member for the current year, entitling a person to all its advantages, admission to Fair, &c. Will not the reader become a member, or if already such, endeavor to excite an interest in his vicinity in behalf of this useful Society? Jerseymen must respect such a cause!

The Annual Meeting will be held at Trenton, on the 3d Tuesday of January, 1856, (15th.)—Col. B. P. Johnson, of the New-York State Agricultural Society, will deliver an address on the occasion. All are respectfully invited to attend.

On behalf of the Executive Board,
J. H. Frazer, Cor. Secretary.

☞ Newspapers throughout New-Jersey are respectfully requested to insert the above.

Horticultural Department.

RAISING PLUMS—A CONVENIENT CURCULIO TRAP.

Almost every month for a few years past, some new "infallible" remedy for the destruction of the curculio has appeared. Some of these have been published, while the fortunate discoverers of others have not been generous or public-spirited enough to let their neighbors into the secret without a prepaid bonus from the public, or the public's servant—the Government.

But, after all, we have advanced little beyond the old, original remedy of jarring the "critters" into a sheet and burning them. We are indebted to Dr. E. S. Hull, of Alton, Ill., for an ingenious and convenient arrangment for doing this—not before published, we believe—which is worthy of description. It is unpatented, and any one can fit out his own apparatus.

It consists essentially of a light circular frame, covered with canvass, and placed upon a wheel-barrow. This frame, which is 10 to 15 feet in diameter, according to the general size of the trees, is constructed in the shape of an inverted umbrella—the center resting in the middle of the barrow—thus forming a kind of broad, hollowing dish, with a box under the center for catching whatever falls upon the canvass and rolls down into the middle. An opening or slit, wide enough to admit the body of the tree, is made from the front part of the frame nearly to the center. In the back part of this slit, and over a point just forward of the wheel, a jarring block or "ram" is placed, the front of which is covered with a piece of India rubber or of felt, or a few thicknesses of an old hat, to prevent barking the tree.

The apparatus being thus arranged, the operator takes the long handles and wheels it around the orchard. He runs under each tree—the tree passing into the slit, so as to bring the apparatus under all the branches—and giving two or three blows with the "battering ram," the curculios are brought down upon the canvas and tumbled into the receiving box, together with the decaying plums, &c. The sides of the canvas should be quite steep, so that the motion of the barrow will carry everything falling upon the canvas down into the box.

One man with this apparatus can go over an orchard of three or four hundred trees during the forenoon. This should be commenced on the first appearance of the curculios in May, and be continued at intervals until their disappearance in July. The best time for catching the insect is in the early part of the day. Dr. Hull informs us that he goes over the ground as often as he can catch curculios from a hundred trees.

This apparatus he has used for five years with unvarying success. It is certainly a simple arrangement, which can be cheaply constructed, and is worthy of general adoption by those who expect to succeed in raising plums.

The ravages of the curculio are becoming so general that it is hardly worth while for any one to attempt to do much at cultivating plums, unless he keep trees enough to employ a man to attend to them from the setting to the gathering of the fruit. When a good market is near, fifty trees are enough to do this with a fair profit.

Dr. Underhill, of Croton Point, however, has succeeded admirably in raising plums, by setting the trees around artificial ponds, and leaning them over the water. The insect instinctively avoids depositing its eggs where the young are exposed to certain destruction the moment they drop from the trees.

We learned, in our conversation with Dr. Hull, of an experiment he made sometime since, which militates against the various remedies founded on the theory of destroying the curculios that burrow in the earth around the base of the tree. Having destroyed the insects upon his own trees and packed the earth well under them, he soon found a new and plentiful supply of the depredators. In order to ascertain whether these, contrary to the received opinion, had come from a neighbor's, he caught a large number of them, applied whitewash to their backs with a feather, and carried them to the neighboring trees. In a short time he again found upon his own trees a large proportion of the "spotted" insects. They had evidently learned the way, and proved that they have migratory habits.

MARKET PEARS.

The two most highly renowned pears for market, are the Bartlett and Virgalieu (or Doyennè.) Fine Bartletts were bought at about eight or nine dollars per barrel the past season, in the eastern cities; and single specimens are often sold for twelve and a half cents each—sometimes more than tripple this amount. This sort possesses, eminently, a very desirable quality for marketing, namely, that of ripening well and assuming all its delicious flavor, if picked a fortnight before full maturity, and even if not quite fully grown. They may thus be sent long distances by railroad without inconvenience or detriment; and if kept excluded from the light, will mature with a handsome and brilliant blush, of which the same specimens would be destitute if ripened in the light. The productiveness of the Bartlett and its early bearing, also strongly recommend it. We have raised about a peck from a tree, set out the year before, when an inch in diameter. When the tree becomes large its bearing qualities are not lessened. We never saw heavier crops of any pear, than those the present season on the old trees standing on the clay grounds of Lewis F. Allen, of Black Rock—(corresponding Editor of the American Agriculturist,) the large specimens nearly touching each other, on the branches, bending, almost like weeping willows, under their loads.

But the Bartlett has some draw t is unusually liable to the fire-blight; and the fruit matures during the continuance of the peach season, and few would pay a dollar per peck for the pears, when they can procure the most delicious peaches for a dollar per bushel.

In this respect the Virgalieu has decidedly the advantage of the Bartlett. It is much less liable to blight, and its period of maturity is long after the quickly-perishable fruits have gone. Its quality is unsurpassed for most palates; and its wide-spread reputation renders it exceedingly saleable.[*] These qualities have placed it far above any other autumn variety throughout western New-York and in many other places, although in most localities along the sea-board it is worthless from cracking. We should object on this account to recommending its exclusive or even very extensive cultivation, for if once fine at Boston and now deteriorated, there is a possibility that the same result may take place elsewhere. Even as far west as Cayuga County, the scab and cracking are becoming quite common, and it is not unknown in Ohio.

It becomes desirable, therefore, for those who would have more than one leg to their stools, to look to other varieties. There are very few sorts that ripen before peaches—but these few may be worthy of attention, as pears will keep longer after picking and bear longer carriage than some other perishable fruits. Unfortunately there are very few sorts that are early enough to come in decidedly in advance of peaches, and among these few, the summer Doyenne (Doyenne d' ete) and Madeleine are undoubtedly the best *very* early sorts. The Giffard, Osband, and Bloodgood, verge very closely on early peaches.

The late autumn pears are so far superior in quality to those which may be termed strictly the *harvest* varieties, that they must be mainly looked to for profitable market culture. Besides the Virgalieu, the following give great promise—and although well known to pomologists have not as yet been extensively produced from orchards.

Louise Bonne of Jersey.[†]—Well known as a large, very handsome, early bearing, and exceedingly productive variety, especially when grown on the quince, on which it flourishes with great vigor.

Buffum—also well known for its vigorous growth and great productiveness, succeeding on both pear and quince, but always to be preferred on the former for orcharding. It is of only medium size, but possesses an excellent flavor—and will be always valued for the facility with which a given quantity of the fruit may be raised.

Flemish Beauty.—This admirable pear has several excellent qualities. It is large, handsome in form, fine, buttery and melting in texture, and delicious in flavor. The tree is a strong, vigorous and handsome grower, and uniformly productive of fair fruit. Its only objection is a tendency to drop too easily from the tree when nearly or about ripe, which we think may be remedied effectually by gathering before maturity. Mostly fails on quince.

---

[*] A fruit dealer sent several barrels of this pear to New-York City—a part labelled as Virgalieu, and the rest as White Doyenne. The "Virgalieus" sold for about double the amount obtained for the "Doyennes"! !

[†] This long name ought to be shortened to "Jersey Louise." (There is another "Louise Bonne.") Some pomologists persist in spelling it full in French, "Louise Bonne de Jersey," in order to avoid a mixture of English and French, but fail in the attempt, for they never give it a pure French pronunciation.

Howell.—A new Connecticut variety that has acquired in a very few years a high reputation—being rather large in size, fair and handsome, bearing early and proving exceedingly productive. In flavor it is not equal to the Buffum and Flemish Beauty, but is, taken altogether, a most desirable sort. These four varieties ripen nearly at the same time, or about the close of the peach season.

The *Beurre d' Anjou*, is rather later, the tree a fine even bearer of rather large size, with a fine grained, buttery and melting texture, and a high, rich, and excellent flavor.

The *Onondaga* or Swan's Orange, is a very large and showy fruit, and although of only second-rate quality, it is valuable for its uniform productiveness, early bearing, and strong, healthy growth. Best on pear stocks.

LATE AUTUMN AND WINTER VARIETIES.

Beurre Clairgeau. This is a newly introduced foreign variety, and its large size, beautiful appearance, good quality, productiveness, and late-autumn ripening, have rendered it a decided favorite among fruit raisers. Should its high promise continue, it may yet become extensively cultivated for market; a barrel of the finest rosy-cheeked specimens, on the approach of winter, would certainly command almost any price within the range of the market scale. Succeeds on both pear and quince.

Beurre Diel, an older and well know sort, is a large, rich, and fine pear, the tree growing vigorously, and yielding good crops. It succeeds finely, usually the best on quince.

Beurre d' Aremberg, long cultivated and well known, produces abundantly, and ripens near the close of autumn. For those who like a high, vinous flavor, it probably has no equal for its season; it is hardly showy enough to command the market to the best advantage. It should be cultivated on pear roots, with a rich soil.

Glout Morceau, ripening about the same time as the Aremberg, is a sweeter pear; succeeds admirably on the quince, but does not produce abundantly till several years of age.

Vicar of Winkfield, is scarcely equaled for its productiveness, the fruit being large and always fair. It continues to ripen for several weeks in succession. Unfortunately its quality is only second rate, but much depends on skill in ripening; for while the Aremberg will mature with almost no care in a common cellar, the Winkfield must be brought into a warm room just at the right time, or when maturity approaches, to complete the process.

Lawrence. With the exception of the Virgalieu, perhaps no pear is so well adapted for the market; it is hardly equal to the Virgalieu in quality, but coming a month or two later, gives it a high value. It is full medium in size, fair in appearance, and the tree an abundant bearer on pear roots. It ripens late in autumn, and often as late as mid-winter. No orchardist need fear to set out plenty of the Lawrence.

Prince's St. Germain, is a medium sized fruit, of fine quality, the tree hardy, thrifty, and productive—it is later than the Lawrence, and well worthy of market culture.

Easter Beurre. This pear, *when in perfection*, is unequaled by any winter pear. It keeps into spring. Most cultivators think it decidedly best on quince roots. It needs rich and good cultivation, in common with many other pears, to bring its qualities to full perfection. A fully grown and well ripened specimen is as much better than a small imperfectly grown and poorly ripened one, as an early York peach is better than a baswood chip.

The *Doyenne d' hiver*, is a new sort, nearly or quite as long a keeper as the Easter Beurre, rather smaller in size, fair and handsome, and of excellent quality. The tree is vigorous and productive. Of course it needs further trial, before extensive planting.

Besides the varieties we have named, there are several others among the newer sorts that may yet prove valuable for orcharding, among which the *Sheldon, Nouveau Potieau, Beurre Sterkman, Zephirin Gregoire, Sieulle*, and others, are worthy of attention. *Winter Nelis*, well known as the highest flavored early winter pear, is too small and not sufficiently showy for market. *Beurre d' Amanlis* is an exceedingly productive and very strong-growing sort on both pear and quince, with large fruit, ripening at mid-autumn, but like the Onondaga, Winkfield, and others, is only second-rate in quality.

On the whole, if we were about planting extensively for market, with a few sorts only, we should select Bartlett, Virgalieu, Louise Bonne Jersey, and Flemish Beauty, among autumn sorts; and Lawrence and Easter Beurre, among winter varieties. As long as mankind have such an appetite for good fruit, which they appear to have possessed for several thousand years, we do not fear but that all excellent fruit that is raised will sell well; and the more delicious sorts will always command great respect in market. Among winter and spring pears, especially, we should like to see an attempt made to produce a surplus; while at present not one man in ten thousand has even seen a single barrel of good well ripened pears at mid-winter or in spring, and all the trees that are now growing would come no nearer to supplying our myriads of population, than the cataract of Niagara could be fed by emptying water from an egg shell.—Co. Gent.

SUGAR CANE.—The Boston Bee says, "We have on our desk a portion of a sugar cane stalk, grown in suburban Dorchester, on the grounds of Mr. Benj. Hemmenway. The stalk grew twelve feet high, and is one inch in diameter near the root. It is full of sap, of a delicious sweetness. It was planted in may last, the seed having come from China. It was cultivated in the same manner as corn. From this sample the question arises —and it is an important and interesting one —can sugar cane be raised in our climate and region?

TRANSPLANTING APPLE TREES.

In the first place, all those who have it in contemplation to plant trees for an orchard, should select a good location, which should be land of a gravelly loam, sloping to the south as near as can be, and if a little stony so much the better. Dig your holes for the reception of the trees, at least twice as large as will be occupied by its roots; a rod from the fence and a rod and a half to two rods apart each way in straight lines, according to the dimensions of the field. The trees to be planted should be of good size, two years from the bud, with handsome, straight trunks and the limbs branching out four or five feet from the ground. It would be well to procure the best, as in the end they are the cheapest. With the help of an assistant to hold the tree in a perpendicular position, proceed to place the roots in a straight line from the tree; then put some fine mold underneath and around the small roots and fibers, leaving no place not filled up as it should be; and pressing the dirt gently down with the foot. See that the trees are set in straight lines both ways, so as to show some taste, as well as for profit; for there is something pleasing to the eye of a person passing by, to see them coming into line in several directions. After a person has set his trees he should take especial pains not to have them injured in any way whatever, when working his cattle among them, by breaking the limbs, jamming off the bark and disturbing roots.

Having been to some labor and expense of purchasing the best trees and planting them, he should keep an eye on the best course to be pursued as regards their management. Now what is to be done to insure success? Why simply the observance of a few rules that must be strictly adhered to. First the ground among the trees should be kept in cultivation *every* year with some kind of hoed crop; and be liberal in the application of some good manure, spread on and well worked in with the plow and harrow. The trees should be washed every year with strong soap-suds to keep the bark smooth and healthy and free from moss. I would here caution people against a wash for trees that I once used, which was from a recommendation I saw in some book or paper, and that was a pound of potash to two gallons of water. After I had washed about a dozen trees it had eaten through the skin of my fingers, and so I reduced it with more water. It also turned the bark of the trees white, which can be seen to this day.

Now as to the best time of the year to trim trees, there are as many minds as can be imagined. Some think the winter is the best, because they have more time to attend to it. That should not be any reason why we should take such a time for the work, as the bark gets discolored below the wounds occasioned by the removal of limbs, and induces decay. The time in my opinion to trim trees, is in the month of June, when the wounds will speedily heal, and be the least detrimental to the tree. Every one having young trees, should have a good pruning-knife and saw, so that when the proper time comes, he may give the tree its right shape and form, removing all limbs that may cross and chafe each other, giving it the form of an inverted umbrella as near as can be.

When any one has planted an orchard, he should not get discouraged, but work with a will, and keep the ground in good tilth among the trees, as it is in the kitchen garden. He should not be satisfied with a few inches growth made in a year, but as far as lies in his power, make a growth of from one to two feet; and he will have the satisfaction in being rewarded for his labor at a day not far distant. No man can give too much of his time, or bestow too much care upon his trees. It is the great secret in bringing them to perfection. What satisfaction and delight it must be to the owner of an orchard in full bearing, to see his trees, reared by his own hands, bending under their loads of fruit, rewarding him for his toil and labor, in profit and pleasure!

In regard to the profits of raising fruit, it must be admitted I think, that it is more profitable than anything else a farmer can raise. The crops raised among the trees while they are growing, will more than pay the expenses of their culture; and after they have come into bearing, nothing need be done but to keep the ground plowed every year. The prices that good apples usually sell at, will keep in ratio with the population at least for the next half century.—J. U., in New-England Farmer.

A BOON TO DAHLIA GROWERS.—A very useful little article has been invented and registered by Mr. Edwards, of St. Paul's-square, Birmingham, for the destruction of that universal pest, the earwig. The article in question is placed on the top of the Dahlia stick, in the same manner as the inverted flower pots; it is made of japanned tin, and is so constructed that when the earwigs have entered it they find it impossible to get out. The trap has been placed in the hands of Mr. C. J. Perry, the well known amateur of Birmingham, who has thoroughly tested it during the late season. Mr. Perry reports as follows:

"In my opinion the invention is complete, no obstruction whatever being offered to the entrance of the insects, and I found that a little sugar being placed inside the trap carried such an attraction that in a few days the trap contained a living mass of the destructive and noxious creatures. The lid is made to open so that the trap can be emptied in a moment; but its principal recommendation is the fact that it is not necessary to remove it daily to destroy the earwigs, as their detention being positive the grower can inspect his traps at his leisure, or they may even be allowed to remain during an entire season."

If the inventor can produce the earwig trap at a moderate cost we feel assured that the demand will be very great, as not only Dahlias but many other florists' flowers suffer considerably from the ravages of earwigs.—London Florist.

Help the needy, that your needs be helped.

CURING AND PRESERVING MEAT.

As this is the season when farmers are laying in their store of meat for the year, a few remarks upon its selection and preservation will be appropriate. In selecting swine, those breeds that are small-boned, with small ears and thin skin, have our preference, both for fattening and for use. A pig which, moderately fatted, at sixteen months old weighs about 300 pounds, in our estimation, is better pork than another one, or even the same, giving the same weight at eight months. Where fat is the only desideratum the young pigs would take precedence; but where we wish a firm broadside, not shrinking or turning to lard in boiling, but remaining solid, though not gristly and hard; a good juicy spare-rib, with the lean well streaked with fat on the rib, at least two inches thick, and with tender hams weighing twenty pounds, and the coating of fat on them not more than one inch thick, the animal must be at least a year old.

Of all breeds we have tried, the Berkshire and its crosses have proved the best. The Suffolk, although we have not tested them, we think would furnish too little lean in proportion to the fat for our use.

Having obtained the right animals, they should be killed at any time after cold weather sets in, so that the meat may cool thoroughly and keep during the process of curing; but it is better not to allow it to freeze. It may be cut up and packed safely the same day it is killed, even while it is warm, but it is better to take the lard out and defer cutting till the next day, as it can be done much neater when it has acquired some firmness. Cut the spare rib so as to retain all the lean meat between it and the broadside, as it will shrink up and become hard if salted. The broadsides should be cut up in strips crosswise, about six inches wide, and closely packed edgewise in a barrel with plenty of good clean salt between each layer. Cold water may be added to cover the meat, or brine containing all the salt it will dissolve. As the salt between the meat dissolves, the brine will sink a little, but the meat must be kept covered. A flat stone may be placed on it to keep it from swimming, as fat meat is lighter than brine. There is no danger of its being too salt, and following these directions you will never have rusty pork.

We have tried various recipes for curing hams, but have never found any superior to what is called the "Knickerbocker pickle."

Rub the hams thoroughly with fine salt, especially about the bone, and then thrust in a piece as large as a chestnut, and let them lie on a plank to drain for two days; then pack them loosely in a barrel, and cover them with the brine made as follows:

Six gallons of water, nine pounds of salt, one quart of molasses, three pounds of brown sugar, three ounces of saltpetre, and one ounce of saleratus. Boil the whole well and skim, and when cold pour it on the meat, which should be entirely covered by it. This will make brine enough for about one hundred pounds. In two or three weeks take up the hams and re-pack them, and after laying in the brine as much longer, they may be smoked till they are a fine chestnut brown. Hickory chips and cobs make the best smoke, which should not be confined, but allowed to pass off freely, so as to dry as well as smoke the meat; but the fire must not be hot enough to burn or heat it. Before warm weather the hams may be inclosed in thick unbleached cotton bags, hanging loosely about them, but tied tightly about the string of the ham, and suspended from the roof in a dry *well* ventilated garret, where they will be safe from the attacks of rats and insects, and will keep the year round, rather improving in quality.

Beef is better not to be cut up for several days, depending upon the temperature. For corning and drying it may receive the same treatment as the hams, except the brine for the corned beef must be scaled before warm weather, or whenever a scum appears on the top, and a little more salt and molasses. A little saleratus is also useful, as the rapid effervescence proves when it is put in; but do it before it boils, or it will run over. If too much salt is added to render the beef agreeable, soak it over night in cold water, and you may thus freshen it to your fancy.—Homestead.

ABOUT MANURE SHEDS.

When we *see* a reasonable scheme in successful operation, we feel more of its force—it stirs us more—than anything we may only *hear* of it. So thought a certain farmer—or at least so acted he—when he went to work the other day to build *a manure shed*. He had often heard it remarked that manure kept under shelter was worth double that left exposed in the yard—he had often noticed the difference in its smell, texture, and appearance on his own premises—but he had never tried the two, side by side, in a fair experiment, until the present year. Now he *saw* the difference in value, he believed what he had been told, and he went to work to build a manure shed, so as to reap more of the benefits now so evident.

It is not to be supposed that the story of his experiments will convince all who read it; he had read just as good, long before he really began to "show his faith"—in the only true way of showing it—"by his work." But it is "good enough to tell" for all that, and we hope, will not be without its influence. He has two good-sized open sheds attached to his barnyard, which his cows occupy for shelter at will in stormy weather. He keeps his oxen and horses in close stables, and these, as well as the sheds, are kept well littered through the winter. The manure from the stables is thrown into the yard; that made under the sheds remains there; both have a sufficient mixture of straw to prevent too active fermentation. And both, were they in the same situation in regard to shelter, would be of equal value.

Last spring, he determined to test the difference as closely as he could, without going into any minute figuring or preparations, for that is too small business in his eyes, for one with so much work to attend to. So, on his corn and barley ground, he took pains to draw the manure from the yard and from the sheds in equal quantities—though he said he did not think it was hardly fair, for in the yard manure he had to cart off a large quantity of water, making—if there were no other difference—a sheltered load worth one-third more than an unsheltered one. (This was the first idea that really *hit* him on the subject. He saw he could save the cost of a simple shed, just in the expense of *cartage*.) Both kinds were treated in the same manner—the crops were sowed and cultivated the same; but he did not need to wait until harvest to decide that *he would shelter his manure*, hereafter.

Where the sheltered manure was applied, the corn and barley came up first; and they kept ahead all the season. The cut-worm worked less in the corn, and the barley seemed to escape all injury from insects—though that part to which the yard manure was applied, suffered from the Hessian fly to a small extent. The difference in the two was very plainly marked, and at harvest it was estimated that the shed manured land gave a crop one-third greatest.

Now our friend has erected two manure sheds. One covers the dung heap from his horse stable, the other is intended to contain that from his cattle stalls, and the major part of the yard droppings, gathered from day to day. Some time, we doubt not, he will go into manure cellars, and stables for all his stock; but this move is a creditable one, and in the right direction. He will also learn the benefit of muck as a material for cheaply increasing his stock of manure, and then we shall see a shed for *that*, to be used as an absorbent of the liquid—now, something *stronger* than rainwater, and worth saving and cartage.

His sheds are simple and cheap affairs.—Crotched posts are set for the front, the back is the barnyard fence—one shed is covered with boards—the other with poles and straw. We expect to hear more of their success or failure hereafter. That other improvements will follow, is very sure; for a good example, specially if a man sets it himself, is certain of influence on those who see it.—Rural New-Yorker.

MILK FOR CHILDREN.

There is much force in the reasoning of Dr. Heckerman, of Tiffany, Ohio, in regard to the unfitness of the milk of breeding cows for children. It is the generally received opinion of physicians that under certain conditions of the mother infants should be weaned without delay. But the great proportion of milk from cows is liable to the same objections. It was found by the chemist Lasigne that the milk drawn from cows for sometime previous to calving was devoid of caseine, milk-sugar and lactic acid, but abounded in albumen and uncombined soda; while after parturition the first three substances were found in due proportions and the albumen was absent.

May we not attribute to this cause much of the mortality among children? The remedy is simple. Let children be fed only upon the milk of farrow cows, or of those which have been spayed.

SOMETHING FOR THE BOYS.

"A boy"—who gets up as good a letter as many men—writes us that he has sent a large number of subscribers to the American Agricultnrist, and means to send several new ones to begin the year; and he wants to know why we do not have a "Boys' Column." We are much obliged to him, and to several other boys who have, from time to time, taken a copy as a specimen and gone around and procured a list of new names for the Agriculturist. We hope many will do so now to begin this new year with. Boys can do a good deal in this way. We got up a large list, when a boy, for Judge Buel's agricultural paper, and this was our first *business* as a "newspaper man."

But how about that question? We will tell you, boys. We think almost all our articles in this paper are plain enough for boys, and just as appropriate for them as for men; and we do not quite like to make up a column of "small talk"—as much as to say, "Here, boys, is something for you—the rest is for grown-up folks." We want you to read the whole paper. We have, however, a good story to tell you, which is especially applicable to those now forming habits for after life. Though you may not follow the same pursuit as Joseph, the economical and industrious habits, and the scrupulous honesty that led him to a high station and success in life, will do the same for you, whether you are farmers or follow any other occupation. Here is the story of

A PENNY.

Thirty years ago there was seen to enter the city of London, a lad about fourteen years of age. He was dressed in a dark smock-frock, that hid all his under apparel, and which appeared to have been made for a person evidently taller than the wearer. His boots were covered with dust from the high road. He had an old hat with a black band, which contrasted strangely with the covering of his head. A small bundle, fastened to the end of a stick and thrown over his shoulder, was the whole of his equipment. As he approached the Mansion House he paused to look at the building, and seating himself on the steps of one of the doors, he was about to rest himself; but the coming in and going out of half a dozen persons before he had time to finish untying his bundle, made him leave that spot for the open space, where the doors were in part closed.

Having taken from the bundle a large quantity of bread and cheese, which he seemed to cat with a ravenous appetite, he amused himself with all the eager curiosity of one unaccustomed to see similar sights.

The appearance of the youth soon attracted my curiosity, and gently opening the door, I stood behind him without his being in the least conscious of my presence. He now began rumaging his pockets, and, after a great deal of trouble, brought out a roll of paper, which he opened. After satisfying himself that a large copper coin was safe, he carefully put it back again, saying to himself, in a low tone, "Mother, I will remember your last words: "a penny saved is two-pence earned." It shall go hard with me before I part with you, old friend."

Pleased with this remark, I gently touched the lad on the shoulder. He started, and was about to move away, when I said:

"My good lad, you seem tired, and likewise a stranger in the city."

"Yes, sir," he answered, putting his hand to his hat. He was again about to move forward.

"You need not hurry away, my boy," I observed. "Indeed, if you are a stranger, and willing to work, I can perhaps help you to get what you require."

The boy stood mute with astonishment, and coloring to such an extent as to show all the freckles of a sunburnt face, stammered out,

"Yes, sir."

"I wish to know," I added, with all the kindness of manner I could assume, "whether you are anxious to find work, for I want a youth to assist my coachman."

The poor land twisted and twirled his bundle about, and after only placing his hand to his head, managed to utter an awkward answer, and said he would be very thankful.

I mentioned not a word about what I had overheard with regard to the penny, but inviting him into the house, I sent for the coachman, to whose care, I entrusted the new comer.

Nearly a month had passed after this meeting and conversation had occurred, when I resolved to make some inquiries of the coachman, regarding the conduct of the lad.

"A better boy never came into the house, sir; and as for wasting anything, bless me, sir, I know not where he has been brought up, but I really believe he would consider it a sin if he did not give the crumbs of bread to the birds every morning."

"I am glad to hear so good an account," I replied.

"And as for his good nature, Sir, there is not a servant among us that doesn't speak well of Joseph. He reads to us while we sup, and he writes all our letters for us. Oh, sir, he has got more learning than all of us put together; and what's more, he doesn't mind work, and never talks about our secrets after he writes our letters."

Determined to see Joseph myself, I requested the coachman to send him to the parlor.

"I understand Joseph, that you can read and write."

"Yes, sir, thanks to my poor dead mother."

"You have lately lost your mother, then?"

"A month that very day when you were kind enough to take me into your house, an unprotected orphan," answered Joseph.

"Where did you go to school?"

"Sir, my mother has been a widow ever since I can remember. She was the daughter of the village schoolmaster, and having to maintain me and herself with her needle, she took the opportunity of her leisure moments to teach me not only how to read and write, but to cast up accounts."

"And did she give you that penny which I saw you unroll so carefully at the door."

Joseph stood amazed, but at length replied with great emotion, and a tear stood in his eye.

" Yes, sir, it was the very last penny she gave me."

" Well, Joseph, so satisfied am I with your conduct, that not only do I pay to you a month's wages willingly for the time you have been here, but I must beg of you to fulfil the duties of collecting clerk to our firm, which has become vacant by the death of a very old and faithful assistant."

Joseph thanked me in the most unassuming manner, and I was asked to take care of his money, since I had promised to provide him with suitable clothing for his new occupation.

It will be unnecessary to relate how, step by step, this poor country lad proceeded to win the confidence of myself and partner. The accounts were always correct to a penny; and whenever his salary became due, he drew out of my hands no more than he absolutely needed, even to a penny. At length he had saved a sufficient sum of money to be deposited in the bank.

It so happened that one of our customers, who carried on a successful business, wanted an active partner. This person was of eccentric habits, and considerably advanced in years. Scrupulously just, he looked on every penny, and invariably discharged his workmen, if they were not equally scrupulous in their dealing with him.

Aware of this peculiarity of temper, there was no person I could recommend but Joseph; and after overcoming the repugnance of my partner, who was unwilling to be deprived of so valuable an assistant, Joseph was duly received into the firm of Richard Fairbrother & Co. Prosperity attended Joseph in his new undertaking, and never suffering a penny difference to appear in his transactions, he so completely won the confidence of his senior partner, that he left him the whole of his business, as he expressed in his will " even to the very last penny."

A HORSE STORY.

" The Nicholas Mare " was a beast of extraordinary speed and endurance. Like most rare animals, whether human or brute, she was eccentric in her habits. It matters not who owned her at the time of the incident we are about to relate. Suffice it to say that her owner was a sensible man, a thorough horseman; his predilection for horse flesh, more than anything else, having driven him into the livery business. Next to the wife of his bosom, he loved the Nicholas mare, a fact of which both females were sensible, without being at all jealous of each other. For this reason the mare was hired only to particular customers, and when let, the party hiring was always carefully instructed as to the peculiarities of the animal. A particular friend, unacquainted with the mare or her habits, and troubled with an impediment in his speech, as well as with a native infirmity of temper, which prevented him from exercising any charity for living creatures of slow or tardy motion, once applied to our livery man for a horse, for a journey of a dozen miles or so, undertaken for the purpose of bringing his wife home from her father's house on a visit. The contract ran thus:

" I w-w-want a horse—a good 'un—one that'll st st-st-start the minute that you s-s-sa-sa-say pwh-pwh-pwhist, an'll go like the wind."

" Suit you, I guess," was the reply.

The mare was put between the thills of a nice light buggy, her harness thoroughly adjusted by the owner, the reins carefully laid over the dashboard, and the usual chapter of advice opened concerning her management.

" Oh, g-g-git out with your directions; I c-c-can d-drive her, I guess," interrupted the lessee, and picking up the reins, he sprang for the seat, but landed heels up, upon the buggy bottom. The mare was off! but the driver, being game, had gained the command, as he thought, through the recovery of the lines, upon which he pulled as though resolved " to do or die." A slight smile was visible upon the demure face of the lessor, as the vehicle receded from sight, at a killing pace, and nothing more was known until the next day, when our friend with the impediment made his appearance with the mare, but *without* his wife. As he drove up a cloud o'erspread his face, as he saw the lessor at the stable door.

" W-w-what kind of an incarnate b-b-brute do you c-call this?"

" Best horse in the stable."

" W-w-well! I started for D—."

" Yes, I know it."

" W-w-well! before I *could* stop, went to H—, (22 miles;) drove back this morning. You k-kn-know father's door-yard—half a mile wide?"

" Yes. Well?"

" W-w-well, old man, me, b-br-bro-brother Jim, hired man, and a visitor, besides, t-t-tri-tried for two hours to get w-w-wife into the wagon, and couldn't do it; d-d-de-devilish critter danced college hornpike all r-ro-round an-an-and *over* some of us, but not a passenger could we get in."

" How, then, did you get in?"

" Tell you. Old man's as foxy as a lawyer. Told me to take her out. I did. Told me to g-g-get in. I did; and after I got in they hitched the mare, and h-he-here I be. W-w-wouldn't give a Spanish dollar for the mare, though she did come the twelve miles in f-for-forty-eight minutes."

" Why?"

" Look at my hands."

They were one blister. The lessor smiled.

" If you had listened to me, all this would have been avoided. Allow the lines to remain untouched until you are seated, and she never starts until you tell her. Drive her with a slack rein and she will go as you desire."

The truth of the statement was at once tested by trial, and resulted as was asserted, precisely;—but the driver was punished for his impatience, and ever, from that day, insists upon having a horse " that won't start the m-m-minute you say p-ph-phwist, and go like the wind."

Book Record.

All Books received—if not unworthy of notice—will be announced in this column by title, as soon as received. Further notices or reviews of Agricultural and Horticultural Books will be given—when their striking merits or demerits require it—after we have had time to thoroughly examine them.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1854 —We are indebted to the Secretary, Mr. Jas. O. Adams, for a copy of this the Third Volume issued by the Granite State Society. It is a moderate-sized volume, of 400 pages, but large enough for all practical purposes. The editor, Mr. Adams, appears to have made the best possible use of the materials at hand. A cursory glance through the volume reveals several articles that we shall read with interest and profit.

THE NEST IN THE HONEY SUCKLE, and other Stories. Published by the American Sunday School Union, and to be obtained at the various depositories of this Association. This is a charming little volume of 192 pages, written by our correspondent, Anna Hope. It contains forty-two stories, many of them beautifully illustrated, and on such subjects and in just the style to please, instruct, and improve children. A capital thing for a holiday present.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE
NEW-YORK, Dec. 29, 1855.

Between the close of our last summary (Nov. 24) and the 10th of the present month, the Breadstuff Markets were as variable as the hight of the mercury in the thermometer, owing to the uncertainty of the time the Canals would be closed by ice. They were advertised to close " officially " on December 5th, but there was at one time strong fears that Jack Frost would step in and relieve the authorities from the necessity of sending the boats into winter quarters. With a limited stock of Wheat, Flour and Corn, on hand, every day's immense arrivals materially changed the complexion of affairs. The dealers in Breadstuffs studied the appearance of the clouds and the direction of the wind, by day, with the earnest attention of old sailors; and if reports be true, some of the largest speculators in flour sat up o' nights to watch the weather. But warm breezes and genial skies—not to add lenient Canal Commissioners—favored the inland farmers who had wheat to sell, and the starving multitude at the seaboard who must needs purchase it; the Canals remained open to the 10th inst, so that our winter supplies have been too great to admit of their being tossed about like a football, by the speculators. While the producers received fair remuneration, the consumers are not compelled to pay exhorbitant profits to go into the pockets of the middlemen, who last winter were able to control the market. Owing to this state of affairs, the transactions in breadstuffs have not been very large during the last five weeks—hardly equal to those of some single weeks previous. We have daily watched and recorded the principal sales, and our note-book shows the following results for the last 28 business days, not including Thanksgiving and Christmas, viz., of Flour, 441,450 barrels; of Wheat, 598,900 bushels; of Corn, 1,283,000 bushels; and of Rye, 359,500 bushels.

With an occasional fluctuation upward, the prices of flour, grain, &c., have experienced a gradual decline. The following figures show the comparative prices of some of the principal agricultural products at the two dates named:

		Nov. 24.	Dec. 29.
Flour—Ordinary State		$9 50@ 9 62	$8 25@ 8 31
Mixed Western		9 50@ 9 62	8 12@ 8 25
Favorite and Ex. State		9 62@ 6 68	8 37@ 8 50
Extra Genesee		10 00@11 50	9 50@11 50
Wheat—Canada White		2 25@ 2 30	2 10@ 2 20
Western Red		2 00@ 2 09	1 90@ 2 00
Corn—Western Mixed		1 04@ 1 06	92@ 93
New Yellow and White		.. ..	80@ 94
Rye		1 28@ 1 30	1 30@ 1 31
Barley		1 20@ 1 30	1 20@ 1 25
Oats—Western		52@ 54	50@ 53
Cotton—Middling		9⅛@ 9⅜	9¼@ 9⅜
Rice	₱ 100lbs	4 62@ 5 25	4 25@ 5 62
Pork—Mess	₱ bbl.	22 00@22 50	16 50@19 50
Dressed Hogs	₱ lb.	8¼@ 8⅜	8@ 8¼
Lard	₱ lb.	12@ 12½	12@ 13
Butter—Western	₱ lb.	18@ 22	18@ 23
State	₱ lb.	24@ 31	23@ 33

Grass seeds are scarce and high, and it will be an object for farmers to secure as large a supply as possible from such resources as they have at hand.

Beef cattle have been varied somewhat; the average of all sales this week was 9½c.@9¾c. ₱ lb. net, against 9c.@9¼c. November 21st.

Apples are abundant, with only a slight advance, say 25c. per bushel, during the month.

Potatoes have scarcely changed during the month; the continued warm weather and large supplies keep prices very low. Carters are now wholesaled for $1 50@$1 75 per bbl.; Mercers for $1 62@$1 87. Onions—Reds, $1 75@$1 87 per bbl.; White, $1 75@$2 50.

Other articles of seasonable produce are stationary in price.

The Weather has been unusually mild and pleasant during nearly the whole month. With the exception of a few inches fall on the 13th inst, we have had scarcely any snow up to this date. It is a remarkable fact that during the whole of December, previous to Christmas, the soil has hardly been frozen sufficiently to impede plowing during the middle of the day, and the ground has not been hard enough to bear one except for an hour or two, on two or three mornings. Not a bit of skating has been practicable in this vicinity. We had on the 27th, a cold change, which still continues, though an over coat is scarcely needed at mid-day.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

Advertisements will be displayed in CAPITALS and leaded over as many lines space as are paid for.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

RUSSIAN FOWLS.—A few pairs of very choice Fowls of this breed may be obtained by applying to the subscriber immediately.
H. L. HYDE,
1850n108—9 Mystic, Ct.

WYANDOT PROLIFIC CORN FOR SALE.—The greatest agricultural wonder of the age.—Plant only one kernel, in hills four feet apart, at the north, and five to six at the south—yield 150 bushels per acre.
For circulars giving full particulars, address
J. C. THOMPSON,
1244n108—11 Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y.

LARGE LOP-EARED RABBITS.—The above Rabbits for sale, in pairs or single. They are beautifully marked of various colors, and are pure and well bred.
Address, S. W. RODMAN, Boston, Mass.,
1247n108—9 Or the Editor of this Paper.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.
The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.
Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.
For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,
C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

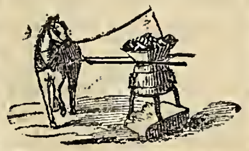
TO AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTUAL SOCIETIES.
WE would particularly invite the attention of those Societies, who are about to make up their
PREMIUM LISTS FOR 1856,
to our large collection of Agricultural Books, which are peculiarly adapted for Premiums.
The awarding of Agricultural Books in the place of small Money Premiums has been extensively adopted, and has given the highest satisfaction.
ADVANTAGES OF THIS PLAN.
It promotes the dissemination of much needed information among Farmers.
It combines the advantages of a Diploma with a Premium of intrinsic value.
It substitutes a Permanent and Expressive Token of Honor for the pittance which is frequently humiliating to the recipient.
It avoids the fostering of a mercenary spirit among competitors, and better comports with the dignity of an honorable emulation between friends and neighbors.
We will take pleasure in furnishing, to applicants, a Catalogue of our Publications, which we consider most appropriate for the use of Agricultural Societies for Premiums, on which a liberal discount will be given.
C. M. SAXTON & CO.,
Agricultural Book Publishers,
1e48n108 140 Fulton-st., New-York.

THREE GOOD JOURNALS FOR 1856!
Well a pted to all readers in every family:
LIFE ILLUSTRATED;
A FIRST CLASS FAMILY PAPER, devoted to News, Literature, Science, the Arts; to Entertainment, Improvement, and Progress. Published weekly at $2 a year.
THE WATER-CURE JOURNAL;
Hydropathy, its Philosophy and Practice; Physiology, Anatomy, and the Laws of Life and Health. $1 a year.
THE PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL;
Devoted to all those Progressive Measures for the Elevation and Improvement of mankind. Illustrated. $1 a year.
For Three Dollars, all three Papers will be sent a year.
FOWLER AND WELLS, 308 Broadway, New-York.
☞ Samples gratis. Agents wanted. Begin now!

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will be held at the Capitol, Albany, on the 2d Wednesday (13th) of February. Premiums will be awarded on Farms, Essays, Grain and Root Crops, Grain and Seeds, Butter and Cheese, Draining, Irrigation, Winter Fruits, &c.
B. P. JOHNSON, Sec'y.
Agricultural Rooms, Albany: Jan. 1, 1856. 1249n108—9

GENERAL DEPOT IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, FOR ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND OTHER MACHINERY.
The undersigned having a large Manufactory for the purpose of making all kinds of Plows, Harrows, Seed-Sowers, Harvesters (Mowing and Reaping machines and Grain Cradles of the most approved patent), Threshing and Winnowing machines, Horse Powers, Carts, Wagons, Axes, Hoes, &c.; and having in addition, a large Warehouse for the reception and sale of most kinds of machinery, such as TURNING LATHES, PLANING MACHINES, for both wood and iron, MORTICING and TENONING machines for wood, &c., is prepared to execute orders promptly and in the most satisfactory manner, for all kinds of American tools and implements suitable for EUROPE, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH-AMERICA, and all parts of the World.
Having been engaged for many years in New-York in manufacturing and exporting the above machinery, the undersigned is not only thoroughly conversant with the wants of foreign markets, but familiar with boxing, shipping, &c. Orders need only to be addressed, with remittances, to receive prompt attention,
R. L. ALLEN,
New-York Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store,
Dec. 1855. Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

THOROUGH-BRED NORTH DEVON AND SHORT HORN CATTLE FOR SALE.
The subscribers now offer for sale five thorough-bred Devon Cows, two yearling Heifers, two yearling Bulls, and four Bull and Heifer Calves.
Also, one Short Horn Bull, 12 months old, from a prize Cow and Bull, and three Short Horn Bull Calves.
For Pedigrees of the above, reference can be had to the Catalogues of the subscriber, which will be forwarded by mail on application.
We have also for sale a few Long-wooled New Oxfordshire SHEEP, consisting of yearling Ewes and Bucks and Buck Lambs.
WM. L. COWLES & SON,
106—8n1242 Farmington, Ct.



THE LITTLE GIANT
CORN and COB CRUSHER, to work with one or more horses, the best machine in use for this purpose.
For sale, of various sizes and prices, by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—120n1212 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

A DESIRABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE FOR SALE—Situated in the beautiful village of Wallingford, Ct. The Real Estate consists of seventy acres of fine land, suitably portioned into grazing, tillable and wood land. A large quantity of fruit trees, such as apples, pears, and plums, are in bearing condition on the place. The land is so situated that the owner can stand near his house and take a full view of his whole farm. On the premises is a substantial, modern built dwelling house, and spacious out-buildings. Connected with the premises is a reservoir of water, which virtually supplies the barns and house, and is capable of being carried to every room in the dwelling. The water from this natural reservoir might be easily diverted so as to form large fish-ponds and beautiful fountains. The premises are situated half a mile from the center of the town, and about that distance from the Railroad, which connects New-York with Boston.
The location is eminently adapted to any person who wishes to enjoy life in the country and at the same time be accessible to the large cities. For particulars, inquire of ELIJAH WILLIAMS, on the premises, or of Messrs. ALLEN & CO., No. 189 Water-st., New-York. 106—8n1239

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS, (QUEENS PATENT,)
The best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.
Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.
Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.
Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.
FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—136n1190eow

LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants may be purchased of WM LAWTON,
83-108n1182 No 54 Wall-st., New-York

THE ATTENTION OF FARMERS is requested to a new FERTILIZER, prepared from the night soil collected from the sinks and privies of New-York city, by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and manufactured without any adulteration whatever, into a powerful manure—something like guano, but less caustic and less exhausting to the soil. It is called
TAFEU,
from the Chinese word signifying prepared night soil, and is the only article of the kind ever manufactured in this country. It is warranted to be 95 per cent pure night soil; and from its ease of transportation and application, and the small quantity required to produce the same result as heavier manures, it is the CHEAPEST MANURE ever offered for sale. For grass in the fall, for winter grain, or for garden vegetables, it has no equal.
From 300 to 600 lbs. per acre is all the dressing required for the poorest soils. A fair trial in competition with other manures is respectfully asked. Packed in barrels of 240 lbs., or bags of 125 lbs. Price $35 per tun, or 1¾ cts. per lb., delivered free of cartage on board of vessels or railroads in the city of New-York.
For further particulars address
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.
P. S.—The L. M. Co. continue to keep on hand and for sale a large quantity of their celebrated POUDRETTE, an article which has stood the test of 16 years in this market, with a large yearly increase in the demand. Price $1.50 per bbl for any quantity over 7 bbls. 99—121n1152

BAGS.—
NOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York,
Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED, FLOUR, SALT GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.
Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city.
Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS.
☞ We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day. 97—109n1214

SHORT HORNS.—Short Horned Cows, Heifers and Bulls for sale. Address
JAMES W. WILKIN,
Wilkin's Villa, (near Montgomery,)
105-110n1233 Orange County, N. Y.

THE NIMBLE GIANT,
Being one of the latest improved iron GRAIN MILLS
for grinding corn, oats, &c.
This machine works with great rapidity with two horses, or when driven by water or steam. It is simple, not liable to get out of order, and durable. Price, $55, with two sieves attached for separating the bran and coarse meal; and with cast steel cob-breaking attachment, for making cob meal, $65. Warranted to give perfect satisfaction, or the purchase money returned.
For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.
GREATLY ENLARGED STOCKS.
Prices Reduced for Autumn and Spring Sales.
Sold only in packages of four sizes, as follows:
Packages of Six Plants - - - - - - $3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants 5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants - - - - - 15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants 25 00
Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING.
WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
Or at New-Rochelle,
105tfn1235 Westchester County, N. Y.

INDEX.

Ag. Society, New-Hampshire........94
" New-York State........77
" United States........80
Apple trees, planting........91
Bee-moths, destroying........86
Beets, baking........78
Bodies, taking care of our........87
Boys, something for........93
Broom corn items........78
Cattle—Highflyer (Illustrated)........86
" Mr. Thorne's importation of........76
" why a thoroughbred is best........80
Cellery stewed........85
Corn crop in Virginia........77
Dahlia growers, a boon to........92
Eggs, preserving and sending to market........77
" to poach........78
Exchanges, changes among our........75
Female Jockeys........79
Garden seat, thoughts on my........86
Granaries........77
Hams, to cure........86
Hiccup........83
Hogs, Suffolk........84
Horse story, a........94
Husk beds........87
Iron and lead pipes........88
Jelly cake........78
Manure heaps........89
Manures, waste of........78—92
Meat, preserving........92
Milk for children........93
Nest in the honey-suckle........94
New-Jersey, to the people of........89
Oats, ground........89
Ox, moving a sullen........88
Painting farm implements........58
Paints, preparing........85
Pears, market........90
Plums, raising........90
Potato digging machine........85
Potatoes, sweet........82
Pumpkin, that........76
Ruta bagas........79—87
Sheep, wintering........80
Shrubbery planting........83
Straw, cutting for manure........89
Sugar cane........91
" plant........81
Trip to the west—No. 2........73
Washing, about........76
Wheat crop, California........77
Willows, &c........81
Working and thinking........80

A CHEAP AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY.

By reprinting some of the earlier volumes, and supplying deficient numbers of the later volumes, the publishers have succeeded in preparing a number of complete sets of the American Agriculturist, beginning with 1842 and ending with the volume just closed.

These constitute FOURTEEN LARGE VOLUMES, bound in uniform style, each volume being supplied with a full alphabetical index, by means of which immediate reference can be made to any topic or subject desired.

The whole set furnishes more than FIVE THOUSAND pages, in which is discussed almost every subject in the range of Agricultural Science and PRACTICE. There is scarcely a topic connected with farming, gardening, stock raising, fruit growing, &c., upon which valuable information may not be found, in one or more of these volumes. There have been few practical writers on agriculture, either in this or other countries, whose direct or indirect contributions have not assisted in filling and enriching these pages from time to time; and we think it no exaggeration to say that the 14 volumes of the Agriculturist constitute the most complete compendium or encyclopedia of Agriculture to be found in the country. We have much to regret that the entire work has not been stereotyped, so that an unlimited supply could be furnished, as it ought to form a part of every public and private agricultural library, and it would be especially desirable to have it in the archives of every agricultural society. This will not be possible, however, as there is but a limited number of complete sets, and no more of these can be obtained after the present supply is exhausted.

The fourteen volumes will be neatly packed and forwarded to any direction desired, on the receipt of $15 by the Publishers.

Any of the old Series—included in the first ten volumes—will be furnished at $1.25 per volume; and any of the new Series—included in volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV—at $1.50 per volume.

Orders for the above, or any further inquiries, may be addressed to

ALLEN & CO.,
No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

Publisher's Announcement
FOR THE
FIFTEENTH VOLUME
OF THE
American Agriculturist.
A Leading, Standard Agricultural Journal.
$1 Per Annum—Discount to Clubs.

The AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST will enter upon its Fifteenth Volume, October 1st, 1855, and be promptly issued thereafter on the first day of each month, making a large double quarto annual volume, printed with new and beautiful type, on heavy, extra white magazine paper of a superior fine quality.

Its pages will be devoted exclusively to AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC ARTS, and those matters which relate directly to the cultivation of the soil.

It is designed to embrace such subjects as—Selection of seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various field and garden crops; fruit growing; care, treatment and improvement of all kinds of domestic animals; the construction and embellishment of farm buildings; housing, preserving, and marketing the products of the farm, orchard, garden and dairy; and to the domestic or household labors of the rural home.

It will be *progressive* in its character, having a constant watch for all improvements and new developments; and, at the same time, be sufficiently conservative to avoid and warn its readers against visionary theories, and the dangerous teachings of those who would create or distort scientific theories to subserve their private interests.

The *American Agriculturist* will be entirely independent of all collateral interests. The conducting and controling Editor, having no connection with any business whatever, will take good care that its pages shall be devoted only to such matters as relate directly to the interests of the reader.

It will continue under the CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of Mr. O. JUDD, who will be assisted by the counsels and contributions of those gentlemen who first originated the *Agriculturist*, and have done much to maintain its uniform high character—including Messrs. A. B. ALLEN, LEWIS F. ALLEN, Rev. WM. CLIFT, together with several able contributors, whose united labors will serve to fill its pages with matter eminently serviceable to every owner or cultivator of even the smallest plot of ground.

TERMS:

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00
Twenty copies one year	15 00

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS.
Combination of Agricultural and News Journals.

In order to furnish all our subscribers who may desire with early agricultural intelligence, such as full, extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world, we have made arrangements with Messrs. RAYMOND, HARPER & Co., to furnish us with an extra edition of the

NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES,

one of the largest and most comprehensive newspapers in the country. The Agricultural Department of the *Times*, together with its full reports of sales and price of live stock, farm and garden produce, &c., is prepared expressly for that paper by Mr. JUDD, the Conducting Editor of this journal.

The two papers combined will embrace all that could be desired by the cultivator of the soil, wherever he may be located. The Monthly *American Agriculturist* will furnish standard articles of a high and practical character, adapted to the Month and Season in which they appear, and so valuable as to be worth preserving in a convenient form; while the Weekly will give the news of the day, not only agricultural but in every other departmsnt. The matter in the two papers will be different, and generally distinct from each other.

Hereafter we shall mail the *American Agriculturist* on the first of each month, and the *Times* on Thursday of each week, on the following liberal terms, which will include the cost of both papers:

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 00
Ten copies of both papers one year	16 00
Twenty copies of both papers one year	30 00

Back numbers of the Monthly *American Agriculturist*, when on hand, will be supplied at 10 cents per number. Back numbers of the *Times* can not be supplied.

Specimen copies always sent free.

All subscriptions or business communications to be addressed to

ALLEN & CO.,
Publishers of American Agriculturist,
No. 189 Water-st., New York.

N. B.—Editorial matters to be addressed,
Editor of American Agriculturist.

PRINTED BY H. O. REYNOLDS, No. 189 Water-st.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:
EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
ALLEN'S do. do.
BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.

THRESHERS—
ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
EMERY'S overshot.
EDDY'S undershot.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

TILE MACHINES—For making Draining Tiles of all descriptions and sizes.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles—and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power—a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, $40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, Corn and Cob Crushers, a very large assortment and of the best and latest improved kinds.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at $6 to $25, and Burr-Stone at $50 to $250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:
VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.
BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.
Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.
Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.
Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear,
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.
R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

SUPERIOR SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.—The subscriber would sell a few Yearlings and Lambs, the get of his celebrated imported Prize Ram 112, from ewes which, like him, were winners at the Royal Ag. Society Show in England, and also from ewes selected from the flock of JONAS WEBB, Esq., expressly to be bred to 112.

He would also sell a few imported Ewes.

SAMUEL THORNE,
"Thornedale," Washington Hollow,
100tfn1219 Dutchess Co., N. Y.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

IF YOU WANT EMPLOYMENT, NOW is the time to send for a full descriptive Catalogue of
SEARS' PICTORIAL FAMILY VOLUMES,
Consisting of useful and attractive books, for the Wives and Children of the Farmer, Mechanic, Laborer, Physician, Lawyer, and Divine—for persons in every sphere and station of life, and for followers of every pursuit—FOR PUBLIC, PRIVATE and DISTRICT SCHOOL LIBRARIES. They have been prepared with great care, and at enormous expense, combining the useful with the agreeable, the solid with the ornamental; and designed, by replacing the cheap trash which overruns the country, with literary food of a moral, attractive and useful character—to disseminate, broadcast, the seeds of virtue and religion—to extend far and wide the roots of a true and lofty patriotism; and, by making good citizens of the rising generation, to throw a firm bulwark around our free and noble institutions.

☞ Our Publications are among the best, for Book Agents, now published. For further particulars, address
ROBERT SEARS, 181 William-st., New-York.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—Washington.

EDITED BY
ORANGE JUDD, A. M.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

PUBLISHED BY
ALLEN & Co., 189 Water-st.

VOL. XV.—No. 5.] NEW-YORK, FEBRUARY, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 109.

CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY.

> " The cattle mourn in corners, where the fence
> Screens them, and seem half petrified to sleep
> In unrecumbent sadness. There they wait
> Their wonted fodder; not like hungering man,
> Fretful if unsupplied; but silent, meek,
> And patient of the slow-paced swain's delay."

We trust the time is not far distant when Cowper's picture of the stock yard of our northern farms will be only known in poetry. It was bad enough in the mild winters of England, a century ago. Now in our severe climate, with months of unbroken snow and ice, it should only be known as a relic of a barbarous age. We take it for granted, gentle reader, that you have already caught the more humane spirit of this nineteenth century, that your cattle are all housed, and the moan of no shivering beast mingles with the howl of the night winds as they sweep around your comfortable dwelling. Supposing that it is all right in the barn, the pig-stye, and the hen-house, let us draw up around your winter fire, and chat awhile of the coming season.

Editor.—I see you have hard coal and a grate, this winter, instead of wood and an open Franklin, with which I found you a few years ago. How does this happen?

Reader.—Yes, we farmers who live near the rivers and villages along the railroads, have begun to burn coal, and its use is increasing every year. The wood is not all cut off yet, but we are obliged to be economical in its use. As long as father lived, I kept up the wood fire. He wanted to see the blaze, and seemed to enjoy the fore stick and the shovel and tongs so much that I could not bear to cross him. But now that he has gone, and another generation has come upon the stage, we only burn wood in the summer for cooking. I find that a tun of coal will give as much heat as two cords of wood, and the cost is about the same. There is still a market for wood in the village at six and seven dollars a cord, and when I carry a load to market I may as well bring back a tun of coal as to come empty. It is equal to twice its price in wood, and there is no expense for cutting and splitting. It is the easiest way I can furnish my fuel. It is always dry and well seasoned, and requires no watching. It is easily kept up all night, and nothing freezes now in the kitchen and kitchen chamber.

Editor.—And what first led you to make this change in your fuel?

Reader.—Why, you see I always was a little foolish, and read the papers, and thought of what I read. They used to laugh at me as a book farmer, and experimenter. But they have done with that long ago. I first saw an article in an agricultural paper, a half a dozen years ago, about the increasing scarcity of wood, and the disappearance of our forests. The writer took the ground that this affected the climate, and had something to do with the drouths of summer. This set me to thinking. And then the families that I supply with butter in the village had begun to use coal, and found it much cheaper than wood. They had stoves and grates, and I thought if it was good economy there, it would pay on the farm. So I sell wood and buy coal, and find it pays. The change is coming over all my neighbors, and you will now find coal at half the houses in the town.

Editor.—So you think it pays to take the papers?

Reader.—Certainly I do. I began with one paper ten years ago, and I now take four agricultural and two horticultural papers, and consider them the best investment I make in my farming operations. They not only help my own work but that of my neighbors, who are *principled* as they say against book farming. A hint from the paper carried out successfully in my fields is sure to find its way into the fields of my neighbor next year, though he never reads any thing; no, not even his bible. But he will come over here of an evening, and talk over farm matters, and go home with the cream of a dozen papers in his noddle, that he has skimmed off of my conversation. He flatters himself that he is very conservative, and yet new ideas are invading his farm every year. Some of my neighbors have broken through the ice, and begun to take the papers, and the number of readers is rapidly increasing.

Editor.—What is your list of journals, and what do you consider the best?

Reader.—I can not give a definite answer to the last question. There is no best in the sense of excluding the others. Every one more than pays its way, and I have no doubt it is best for me to take all that are now upon my list. They cost ten dollars in all, and there is no X in my yearly expenses that I part with more cheerfully than this. Their visits are warmly welcomed, and wife and the children keep about as well booked up in them as myself.

Editor.—I am glad to hear that you will be able to keep your sons then upon the farm?

Reader.—Well, I think they will never see a brighter spot than the old homestead. The flower garden is a gem of a place in the summer, and they all have a patch where they work with their mother and sisters. The young folks took prizes at the fair for fine flowers, and for aught I can see they are as full of excitement and happiness as their city cousins.

It is not every fireside where we should find matters so much to our liking, and where the reader would find so little interruption to his conversation. But the number of intelligent cultivators of the soil is greatly increasing, and the ties that bind farmers' sons to rural life are rapidly multiplying. At this dreary season the intellectual field is cultivated with as much assiduity as they cultivate the natural field in summer. They have their cheerful fire-side, their file of new books and papers, their songs and music, and circle of happy faces. May no shadow of sorrow ever dim their luster. This month brings its duties and pleasures.

Square accounts—If it was not done last month. Let no account go over another season. Give your note if you have not the money for all indebtedness. It will save you from foolish expenditures, and make you study economy more closely.

Planning your work for the spring and summer should not be deferred longer. Determine the use of every field, the crop, the seed, and the manures. If short of stable manure, either cultivate less land or buy No. 1 Peruvian guano. Land can not be cultivated with profit without manure; and a heavy dressing pays much better than a less quantity.

Map your farm, if you have not already done it, so that you can see at a glance every field, and every tree in your orchard. This will facilitate your keeping debit and credit with every field. You will learn something then of every crop and every field, with each passing year.

Cut scions this month, if you find any choice varieties of fruit when away from home. If upon your own premises, it can be delayed until next month. Put them in a cool damp cellar in sand, and they will not shrivel very much.

Trim grape vines.—This should not be delayed beyond this month. Vines trimmed in March do not have time to sere over their wounds, and will sometimes bleed badly. Improve the first pleasant day with your knife. Trim closely, and expect grapes with confidence.

Examine your fruit trees..—The young

ones need watching when the snows fall. They are often buried under the banks, and will be broken or destroyed if they are not dug out. A few hours work at the right time will save you many dollars.

Seeds.—Have them all in readiness. Assort the potatoes and put the seed in barrels by themselves. If you have a surplus, market them now. They will be poor property in June. Let all the garden seeds be selected and labeled, and put in the right place. Seed sowing is a busy time, and an hour spent then in looking up some mislaid package will be a vexation to mar the happiness of a whole day. February is the gate of the opening year. Let it be rightly improved in making ready, and you will pass on smoothly through the seed time and harvest.

BRUSH SWAMPS.

Few lands are richer in vegetable matter than the brush swamps of our country, and yet there are millions of acres of them still left untouched—harbors for all sorts of vermin—the fruitful sources for billious fever and ague—and huge eye-sores in the landscape. When cleared and drained, these swamps are oftentimes found to be ten times as productive as the adjacent uplands; and yet our farmers have gone on cultivating the uplands in preference to them for scores of years, although it has often cost more to cut off the forest, blast the rocks, and pick up the stones of the former, than it would to have drained the swamps.

Now, while frozen over, is the best time to cut off the brush and wood from swamps, as it is the only season when their surface will bear a team to carry off the rubbish; it is also an excellent time, when not covered with snow, to burn the brush. The main ditches for draining can also be more easily dug at this season than any other, and farmers usually have more leisure for this kind of work; in fact, with many it is their only chance throughout the year for such improvements.

Since mowing machines have come into use, swamp lands may be made much more valuable than ever; as they usually present a nearly perfect level surface, in which they can operate with considerable greater facility than on uplands. Besides, no lands are so well adapted to grass, for they are rich, cool and moist.

The great fault in draining swamps generally is, that the ditches are not cut sufficiently deep, especially the main ones. Three feet ordinarily is the least we should say for these, while four or five feet would be still better. The cross drains may be two feet or so—nothing less than this. The advantage of deep main drains is to dry the surface quickly and sufficiently to grow the best sorts of cultivated grasses the first year, or even to take off a crop of corn or potatoes.

New-York State Agricultural Society.—The Annual meeting opens at Albany on the 13th inst. These winter meetings furnish a capital opportunity for farmers to come together, to get acquainted and talk over various agricultural topics, without the excitement attendant upon the annual exhibitions.

DECISION OF THE GREAT REAPER CASE IN FAVOR OF MANNY'S MACHINE.

We subjoin the recent decision in the important case of McCormick *vs.* Manny, for alleged infringement in reaping machines, and a very satisfactory decision, we doubt not, this will prove to the great mass of American farmers. It has become quite the fashion of late for inventors of exceedingly moderate merits, but of very great pretensions, who have invented a little and claim a great deal, or what is much more common, for non-inventors who have got hold of some patent, and hope to realize largely from it, to attempt excluding all subsequent inventors who have secured some highly improved machine or implement to effect a similar result; and this, too, when there is scarcely a shadow of resemblance to the previous machine, which, in too many cases, is a mere copy itself of an antiquated patent or forgotten machine. We are glad to perceive our United States Courts, while firmly protecting new, peculiar and important principles in mechanics, are determined on not shutting the door against all subsequent improvements. The genius of our institutions and national character is against monopolies, and especially such monopoly as shuts out the efforts of enterprise and talent, which have made our country what it is, and which are destined to carry it rapidly forward in a career that will soon distance all competitors.

The above case was argued last Summer at Cincinnati by Hon. Reverdy Johnson and E. N. Dickerson for Mr. McCormick, and E. M. Stanton and George Harding for Manny & Co., defendants. Judge McLean delivered the opinion of the Court at Washington on the 16th ult.; the decision on all points is in favor of Manny, the defendant. The Court held:

1. That Manny's Reaping Machine does not infringe any of the patents of Mr. McCormick.

2. That the leveler and reel-post used in Manny's machines are not the same, in form or principle, as the improvements patented by Mr. McCormick in 1845, and are no infringement.

3. That several useful improvements, invented and patented by John H. Manny are not covered by McCormick's patent, but are different in form and principle, and, consequently, no infringement.

The injunction was refused and the bill dismissed at cost of complainant. The Court fully sustains the validity of McCormick's patents, and pays a high compliment to the patentee. An appeal has been taken to the United States Supreme Court.

The opponents of any idea, founded on reason and common sense, are like men striking among live coals; they may scatter them, but only to make them kindle and blaze in spots that otherwise they never have touched.—Goethe.

ROSES—DIRECTIONS TO THE UNINITIATED.

No flowering plant is more appropriate—more indispensable to the house-yard and garden, than the Rose. Nothing adds so much of beauty and attractiveness, at so little cost. They may be obtained of a thousand hues and forms, and in varieties almost illimitable. Some European catalogues have contained the names of five or six thousand separate varieties, and any respectable American catalogue contains the names of a thousand or more. But the farmer, as well as he who has but a few hundred square feet, has no call for such a list. For his purpose, a dozen, more or less, is amply sufficient. The difficulty is to select this small number of those which are really the most valuable; and to aid in this selection is the object of what follows. Let us first, however, give a general view of a system of classification, which will be useful to even those who desire only half-a-dozen.

There are three general classes of Roses, including several subdivisions.*

I.—Those that bloom at several distinct periods throughout the season. These are called Remontant (or growing again) Roses.

II.—Those that bloom continually without any temporary cessation, called Ever-Blooming.

III.—Those that bloom only once in a season.

The First Class (Remontant) includes only the Damask, and those called the Hybrid Perpetuals.

The Second Class, or Ever-Blooming, includes:

1. The Bourbon Roses—Known by their luxuriant growth, and thick, leathery leaves. The most of them are perfectly hardy.

2. The China Roses—including the Tea-scented, and the Noisette or cluster-blooming roses.

3. The Musk—known by its odor and rough appearance.

4. The Macartney—known by its very rich, glossy foliage, almost evergreen.

5. The Microphylla—distinguished by its peculiar foliage and straggling habit.

The Third Class, or once-blooming, includes:

1. Garden Roses.—This embraces a number of varieties, such as the French, Provence, Hybrid Provence, Hybrid China, Hybrid Bourbon, White, and Damask Roses.

2. The Moss Roses.

3. Briar Roses—including the Sweet-Briar, Hybrid Sweet-Briar, and Austrian Briar.

4. The Scotch Rose.

5. Climbing Roses, of which there are a number of varieties, such as the Rubifolia, the Sempivirens or evergreen, the Ayrshire, the Banksia, the Boursault, the Rosa Multiflora or cluster-blooming, and others.

Several of the above are not hardy, and many are not adapted to general cultivation.

Supposing that we have no piazza or walls for roses to climb upon, we should select for out-door cultivation on a small plot, first from the Remontants and Ever-blooming, adding a few Moss and a few Garden or June roses.

---

* We follow the simple and beautiful classification of Mr. Saml. B. Parsons, in his admirable work upon the Rose.

For our first selection, if we could have but one, we would take from the Remontants a "Hybrid Perpetual," called "Giant of the Battles," (*Geant des Battailes.*) This Rose is distinguished for its brilliancy of color and free blooming. It is perfectly hardy, and has been thoroughly tested.

For our second selection, if we could have but two, we would choose from the Ever-Blooming, a Bourbon rose, called the "Souvenir de la Malmaison," which is perfectly double, a very large, bold flower, delicate pale flesh-color, tinted with fawn. It is quite hardy, though requiring slight protection during Winter in very cold situations. If killed down to the ground, it will spring up rapidly. It blooms very early in the Spring.

For our third rose, if we could have but three, we would take the "Palace du Crystal," from the Remontants,. a bright, pinkish rose, deeply tinged with bright fawn. It is of strong habit and a robust grower.

For our fourth rose, if we could have but four, we would select the Amandine, also a Remontant, which has a delicate rose color, and a very large and full flower, and like he others is hardy.

For a higher number, aside from the Moss and Garden roses we would select for a small plot of ground as follows:

5. Appoline—a Bourbon.
6. Baron Prevost—a Remontant.
7. Cardinal Fesch—a Bourbon.
8. Lion of Combats—a Remontant.
9. Enfant d'Ajaccio—a Bourbon.
10. Baron Hallez—a Remontant.
11. Jupiter—a Bourbon.
12. Caroline de Sansal—a Remontant.
13. Madame Desprez—a Bourbon.
14. Genie de Chateaubriand—a Remontant.
15. Bourbon Queen—a Bourbon.
16. Augustine Mie—a Remontant.
17. Boquet de Flora—a Bourbon.
18. Dolphine Gay—a Remontant.
19. Mrs. Bosanquet—a Bourbon.
20. Sydonie—a Remontant.

The above constitute a fine selection for a small place where the roses are designed for common out-door, hardy culture. With them we should intermingle a few of the Moss Roses, which, though having a less brilliant flower, add beauty and variety to the collection by their mossy buds and calyxes. The most choice of these are the Alice Leroy, Lee's Brilliant, Cristata or Crested Moss, General Drouet (a perpetual bloomer), Nuitt's de Young (Young's Night Thoughts), a very dark rose, and White Bath.

To the above may be added some of the Once-Blooming or June roses, which, though blooming but once, produce most magnificent flowers. Of these the most desirable are the Blanchfleur (white flower), Brennus, Chenedole, Coupe de Hebe, Madame Plantier, Julie d'Etranges, Kean, Rien ne me surpass (nothing can surpass me), Schismaker, &c.

Those who have piazzas, walls or arbors will select from the Climbing roses the following, which constitute a fine variety, the most desirable being placed first:

For the best red, the Prairie Queen; for the best white, Baltimore Belle: then the Perpetual Pink, Pride of Washington, Milledgville, Elegans, Gravelle or seven sisters, Gravelli Graulthii (pure white), Laura Devoust, Felicite Perpetual, Madame d'Arblay, Sir John Seabright, Russelliana, Princess Marie, &c.

All the above are strong growers, which often climb 25 feet in a season.

Having thus given a list for selection, we will in our next furnish some practical directions for cultivating the different varieties.

GARDEN SOILS.

A good garden may be made by skillful management, upon almost any soil. But the results will differ somewhat according to the nature of the soil; where the soil is a moist, heavy loam, resting upon a clayey subsoil, crops can not be obtained as early as upon a different soil. But by tillage adapted to the nature of the soil, large heavy crops may be obtained for fall and winter use. Upon such soils only one crop can generally be obtained, in a season. Such soils should be well drained, and cultivated in beds or ridges, so that the surface water may be conducted, off, and not be permitted to injure land already sufficiently moist. Horse manure is the best dressing for such soils, when cultivated as a garden, and should be liberally supplied, and well plowed in. Such land is apt to bake and become hard; consequently it requires to be frequently stirred during the growth of the plants. Such a soil is well adapted to the growth of pears and quinces.

When it is an object to obtain early crops, as in the cultivation of market gardeners, a light, sandy loam is preferable. When such a soil is made rich by high cultivation, the crops are earlier, more sure and the soil is more easily worked. Many of the most productive gardens in the neighborhood of Boston are made upon light sandy plains that were previously exhausted by cultivation without manure, and that have been redeemed by judicious management. The plow is put in as deep as it can be made to run, and the whole of this depth is made fat by liberal supplies of warm, stimulating manures. It is an important object with market gardeners to get early crops, and they are able to get them in such a soil, two, three and four weeks earlier than in a heavy loam. This gives them a longer season, and by a skillful management of successive crops, they get two or three crops in one season. Apple trees succeed well on such soils. When the ground is enriched by high manuring and the cultivation of hoed crops, the trees grow rapidly, and come into bearing some years sooner than in a colder and heavier soil. They start earlier in the spring, and, of course, have a longer season to grow, and the wood which they make becomes better matured and prepared to endure the cold of the ensuing winter.

In such soils, fall sowing is often practiced to advantage. Onions, beets and lettuce are sowed in September and covered with salt hay, rock weed or meadow hay; the mulching is removed early in March, and the ground between the rows stirred, and onions and beets are thus obtained for the market in June, or early in July. Vegetables at this season command nearly double the price that they do later in the season. Three crops are often obtained from the same ground. A portion of ground is plowed as soon as the frost is out, and a heavy dressing of horse manure is plowed in. Early peas are planted in rows perhaps five feet apart; then radishes are sowed broadcast, and raked in. The radishes are pulled before the peas are all picked. Between the rows of peas are planted at proper times, squashes, melons or cucumbers; by the time the vines begin to run, the radishes and peas are removed from the ground, and the whole surface is left in possession of the vines. Early potatoes are taken off in July and the early part of August, and a full crop of turnips is made to follow. Or after peas and potatoes, onions and beets are sowed for the spring market. After lettuce and radishes, cabbages are set for fall use. Many such gardeners start vegetables in hot-beds under glass; thus they obtain potatoes, tomatoes, cabbages and cucumbers some two or three weeks earlier than by open culture, and the increased price amply repays them for the outlay of capital and labor.

Strawberries succeed admirably on such soils, especially if in addition to high culture irrigation is employed. Some of the strawberry gardens in the vicinity of Baltimore, consisting of from ten to one hundred acres, are made of worn out sandy land, which has been redeemed by cultivation. One gardener in the neighborhood of Boston, receives more than three thousand dollars annually for the vegetables and fruit grown upon twenty-six acres of such land. His proximity to a ready market, and to an abundant supply of manure, are circumstances which contribute greatly to his success. But high culture, and a skillful arrangement of successive crops are the essential conditions of his prosperity. I do not believe he would make as much money in proportion to his outlay, in the cultivation of a heavy loam, although the soil is in itself much more fertile. Early crops could not be obtained on such a soil, and these are a chief source of profit. Apples would not succeed as well as on a lighter and more sandy soil. From four Porter apple trees on such a soil, apples have been sold to the amount of more than a hundred dollars in a year. This, to be sure, is an extraordinary product, and was owing to the superior quality of the fruit; but under such culture on a sandy soil Baldwins, Greenings and Russets will yield from four to five barrels to a tree, worth from two to four dollars a barrel. On such a soil peaches and plums thrive better than on any other, and bear full crops in four or five years from the stone.

Let no man say he can not have a good garden, because he has only a piece of poor sandy land. On such land, he can have earlier crops than his neighbor who has a deep, rich, moist loam; and if he does not have so heavy a crop, he can have two to his neighbor's one. Plow early and deep, and put on manure with a liberal hand, and you shall have a luxuriant garden, where you have now an unproductive and barren patch.—R., in N. E. Farmer.

HOW FARMING IS DONE IN EASTERN CONNECTICUT.

A correspondent residing some thirty miles east of Hartford, Conn., in a private letter remarks incidentally upon the condition of agriculture in his vicinity. What he says applies not only to many parts of Connecticut, where we have traveled, but to a thousand other places in the country at large, and we trust he will pardon us for making the following extract from his letter:

* * * The mass of our farmers do not take any agricultural paper. The farming in this vicinity, with a few note-worthy exceptions, is carried on in the old (I had almost said antideluvian, manner, our farmers being rigid conservatives, take care to do just as their great-grandfathers did before them.

Book-farming is folly, and scientific culture a humbug, in their estimation, and it seems almost impossible to start the great body of the farmers in the rural districts from their old plow-jogging routine.

How many farmers that now only just rake and scrape a living, if they would only open their eyes, take a good agricultural paper—which they can no more afford to do without than without a cow—learn the first elements of agricultural science, and judiciously apply their knowledge, would soon be on the high road to competence and wealth.

On very many farms there are acres of valuable swamp lands, with inexhaustible mines of muck; old plains, now used for sheep pastures, &c., that need only the subsoil plow and the right fertilizer, to make them yield a golden harvest; in short, how much of the best farms lie waste and useless because farmers will be ignorant.

How slow also are farmers to learn the value of fruit-growing, especially choice fruit, which grows just as easy as any other.

The world does move, and farmers, though slow, have made some progress. I notice more dispotion to use such fertilizers as guano, super-phosphate of lime, &c., though in many cases applied most injudiciously; yet it is a sign of progress.

I presume, however, that three-fourths of those who used these concentrated fertilizers last year, lost more manure by failing to save and take care of it, by the escape of the fertilizing properties, than all their guano, &c., would amount to. I know of but one barn calculated with vaults and sheds to secure all the manure, liquid and all.

An evenness of living hath too much confinement in it. Men will be rather more or less, than always the same.

HOW ARE YOUR BEES THIS WINTER?

Some people think bees not worth their attention. We do not so think. We have kept them for twenty-five years, and they have always repaid us for their care in abundance of delicious honey, every year. They require *some* care, it is true. So does everything from which we get any benefit. Some think that bees require a great deal of *science* to manage them. It is not so. They are just as simple in their management as a hen with a brood of chickens—but not in the the *same* way. *Ignorant* people talk about "luck" in bees. So they do in everything else they have. Some seasons are better for bees and honey-making than other seasons; but these must be understood. A bee will not be robbed with impunity in a bad honey season any more than a cow or a a sheep will; and the season and the temper of the hive must be consulted, and not take honey from them when required for their own subsistence.

The last was a bad bee year. On account of the cold and the wet in May and June—the two bee-months of the year—they neither swarmed well nor did the flowers yield their usual supplies of honey. Therefore the honey-crop was light, and some folks complain that they had no "luck"!

To manage bees well you must have a good, understandable treatise on their management, by a man who knows all about them. Quinby is one of the best authors. His book is to be found in all agricultural book stores. Consult him, and then, with your own common sense added, you can not go far amiss in your bee culture.

Winter is the best time to buy and remove bees, if you have none, and we can safely advise every country dweller to get a swarm or two, and raise their own honey. Try it.

MORE ABOUT "THAT PUMPKIN."

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Your January No. contains a notice of a "bitter pumpkin," a specimen of which I also received, through the attention of Messrs. Balch & Son, of Providence. I can not but commend your caution in testing its quality by proxy, a more direct experiment convinced me that your "sub" was justified in any contortions of visage which might express his disgust. There are several members of the family to which the squash and pumpkin belong, which possess the quality of bitterness in an eminent degree, and among them are the *colocynth*, which furnishes the "bitter apple," one of the most nauseously bitter of all of the disagreeable articles of medicine, and the *mock orange* or *orange gourd*. The latter is frequently cultivated, especially in the country, as an ornamental vine; it bears a profusion of fruit about the size and color of an orange, though some varieties are curiously marked with bands of very dark green. This is also intensely bitter, and is known among the French as *false colocynth*. It is well known that the squash family, including squashes, pumpkins, cucumbers and melons, are among the plants which are most disposed to produce hybrids or crosses (as many a farmer who has planted the seed of the "real crook-necks," and harvested a crop of nondescript no-necks can testify); and it is highly probable that the "bitter pumpkin" is the product of a spontaneous crossing of the mock orange with the common pumpkins. This supposition is strengthened by finding upon the section sent me some markings, though mere lines, of the dark green peculiar to the variegated forms of the mock orange. It would be interesting if Dr. Whitman would take the trouble to cultivate this bitter variety at a distance from any other pumpkins. In all cases of crosses of the kind I suppose this to be, there is a tendency among the progeny to sport, and to return to the original condition of one or the other parent, and it is very probable that, among the otherwise not very valuable crosses, some individuals might be found which would satisfactorily establish the origin of "that pumpkin."—G. T., New-York.

FARMERS, "FIX UP" YOUR HOMES.

We are not about to descant upon the pleasures of a neat and tasteful farm residence, nor of its usefulness as a means of attaching the younger members of a family to the paternal home; nor yet of the humanizing and elevating effect upon the proprietor himself. Much has been said, and much remains to be said upon these topics. We now offer only a word upon the direct *profit* of such improvements.

Let us take, for illustration, two farmers side by side, similarly situated as respects markets, convenience to schools, churches &c., and both equal in the native or acquired fertility of soil. Allow also that both have equally good buildings, houses, barns and other out-houses. But suppose one of these dwellings has a fine yard or grassy lawn with a moderate supply of well selected shade trees and flowery shrubs, and a garden stocked with fruit trees of various kinds, and supplied with well arranged plots of vegetables; while the other dwelling is devoid of these surroundings, save perhaps a shade tree or two, and a garden containing an onion bed, a potatoe patch, a few hills of corn, cabbages and other common vegetables. Now let a third person visit these two farms with a view of purchasing one of them. How many hundred dollars more will he pay for the one having upon it the adorned and beautiful home ready prepared for him? We leave the reader to answer.

DO NOT WASTE THE COAL ASHES.

These contain not a little potash derived from the wood or charcoal used in kindling, and they furnish some fertilizing materials in their own composition. We have ourselves made an excellent garden plot on quicksand, thrown from a cellar into a hollow. The only manure was a thick coating of coal ashes and a fair supply of leaves and weeds taken from the roadside. Coal ashes and cinders are first-rate for heavy clay gardens and fields. Try them—they can not do harm, and it is about as easy to put them where they may do good as it is to dump them into the street.

WATER FOR CATTLE IN WINTER.

If you have not made provision for this indispensable article, you are now feeling the inconvenience of the neglect. It is a serious undertaking to drive all the stock from the barn a quarter or half a mile to a spring or brook, and cut holes in the ice for them. The snow is often deep, the ice slippery, and the weather intensely cold. Accidents sometimes happen—a limb is broken by a fall, and the weaker animals do not get a full supply of water. The animals are thoroughly chilled through by the ice water and the cold, and it takes a large quantity of food to restore their bodies to their natural warmth. There is a great loss of flesh from your cattle, of hay from your barn, and of money from your purse, by this daily journey to a distant watering place. The loss is enough, on a large farm, every winter, to pay for permanent fixtures for watering in the barn, or in the yard. Now while you and your cattle are suffering from the inconvenience, make your plans to remedy it.

If there is a living spring on high ground within a half mile of your barn, bring it into the yard with a lead pipe. With a large trough as a reservoir, a pipe of small bore will furnish an ample supply. This can be done before another winter sets in, and will not be a very costly affair. If there is no spring or brook that you can make available, it is quite possible that you can dig a well on the nearest high land that will give fall enough to conduct its waters where you want it. An examination of the ground, and the use of a water level, will enable you to decide upon its practicability. If this cannot be done, the next best thing is a cistern on one side of your barn cellar, or if you have none, under your barn; as a rule a barn roof will catch water enough to supply all the cattle it shelters during the three months of winter. If properly protected it will not freeze, and if you have a stop-cock from the cistern emptying into the water trough, it will be found a very convenient and economical method of supplying a barn with water. We have used a cistern for this purpose two winters, and find that it answers all our expectations. Immediately adjoining it is a root room, and we find a large body of water so near is a great safeguard against frost. In mixing cut hay and meal with roots, as every good farmer should in winter, it is a great saving of time to have the water in the same room with the other materials. But if you will not build a cistern, you can at least dig a well and furnish it with a bucket and trough. This, to be sure, will take time and labor, but it will be found far less expensive than to suffer your cattle to go a long distance to drink, shivering with the cold, wasting their droppings, and injuring your mowing fields. For it is a well ascertained fact, that both pastures and meadows are damaged by leaving the snow trodden down hard upon them in the winter. In some way provide water for your barn, and let this nuisance of freezing cattle be abated.

RADISHES IN MARCH.

Now is the time to be thinking of the frame and glass to plant the seeds under, if you really mean to indulge in that luxury. Dr. Kane found them at Upper-navik, in northern Greenland, grown in the garden of the Governor of that Danish settlement. "A little paling, white and garden like, inclosed about ten feet of prepared soil, covered with heavy glass frames; under which, in spite of the hoar frost that gathered on them, we could detect a few bunches of crucifers, green radishes, and turnip tops." * * *

"At last came the crowning act of hospitality; on the bottom of a blue saucer, radiating like the spokes of a wheel or the sticks of a Delaware's camp fire crisp, pale yet blushing at their tips, and crowned each with its little verdant tuft—*ten radishes!* Talk of the mango of Luzon and the mangostine of Borneo, the cherimoya of Peru, the pine of Sumatra, the Seckel pear of Schuylkill meadows; but the palate must cease to have a memory before I yield a place to any of them along side of the ten radishes of Upper-navik."

You may not have the Doctor's experience of a year's residence on the Polar sea to sharpen your appetite, yet radishes next month at your tea-table will be a treat worth looking after. You can have them with half the pains taking of the Danish Governor, and in much greater abundance. It does not require high heat or very thick glass to secure them. A hot-bed four feet by ten, started the middle of this month, will give you radishes before the markets afford them. Gentlemen who have their greenhouses, and are now luxuriating upon fresh strawberries from their own pots, do not of course need our exhortation. But those who have not yet this convenience for winter luxuries, may accomplish much with a hot bed. The capabilities of the hot-bed are far from having been exhausted.

NEW-YORK STATE POULTRY SOCIETY.

The annual exhibition of this Society opens at Van Vechten Hall, Albany, on the 12th inst., and continues through the 13th and 14th There is a prospect of a fine show, and as we hear of no move towards a National Show in this city, there will be a considerable concentration of interest in the show at Albany. The Cor. Sec., E. E. Platt, of Albany, has furnished us with the names of the following Judges:

1. Of the largest and best variety—Geo. Vail, Troy; A. A. Hudson, Syracuse; L. F. Allen, Black Rock.
2. Of the larger Asiatic Fowls—George Vail, Troy; J. M. Lovett, Albany; John H. Cole, Claverack.
3. Of other Gallinaceous Fowls—A. A. Hudson, Syracuse; R. U. Sherman, Utica; Wm. Frothingham, Albany.
4. On Aquatic, Pea and Guinea Fowls, and Turkeys—Lewis F. Allen, Black Rock; R. C. McCormick Jr., N. Y.; R. L. Colt, Paterson, N. J.
5. On Pigeons, Singing Birds, and Rabbits—C. S. Platt, N. Y.; R. R. Bingham, Albany; T. C. Abraham, Watervliet.

FARM WORK GETTING EASIER.

When we were boys, and that not long ago, a dozen implements comprised about all that were constructed to lighten the labors of farmers and farmers' boys. The plow, harrow, hoe, spade or shovel, scythe, cradle, sickle, rake, pitchfork, fanning-mill, and two or three others, comprised the list to be looked to or looked after. We well remember the first threshing machine that came into "our neighborhood," followed soon after by a "patent" fanning-mill; and what light work the horse-rake made; and how our backs straightened up when we got our first cultivator; and we might describe the wonder and delight excited at the introduction of each successive new implement, but our readers perhaps recollect these things as well as we do, and their imaginations will supply the materials of the article we might write on this subject.

We do not remember a single establishment devoted exclusively to the sale of agricultural implements twenty years ago, and now we could reckon up hundreds, many of them selling tens of thousands, and many of them hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of farm labor-saving machines every year.

We have before us a catalogue of agricultural implements sold by one dealer, and it would require this whole page to print the names only of the things he offers. In the last Patent Office Report printed, we find a record of 1,760 patents for new machines granted during 1854, and 171 of these, or one-tenth, are set down as agricultural implements, leaving only nine times as many for all the other various departments of manufactures. Improvements are going on at a rapid rate, and we can hardly predict to what point we shall arrive even in ten years to come. We already sow our grain, harvest and thresh it, by machinery; and very soon the steam engine will be hitched on to these implements, and to the plow and harrow besides, and we shall only need to watch these silent but faithful forces while they do our work. Young farmers and farmers' sons, wake up and catch the spirit of this age, or you will ere long be left in the back ground.

TO MAKE LARD AND TALLOW CANDLES.

The following method of making the above named candles is described in the New-England Farmer by a correspondent: "I kept both tallow and lard candles through the last summer, the lard candles standing the heat best, and burning quite as well, and giving as good light as tallow ones. Directions for making good candles from lard: For 12 lbs. of lard take 1 lb. of saltpeter and 1 lb. of alum; mix and pulverize them; dissolve the saltpeter and alum in a gill of boiling water; pour the compound into the lard before it is quite all melted; stir the whole until it boils, and skim off what rises; let it simmer until the water is all boiled out, or till it ceases to throw off steam; pour off the lard as soon as it is done, and clean the boiler while it is hot. If the candles are to be run, you may commence immediately; if to be dipped, let the lard cool first to a cake, and then treat it as you would tallow."

THE CAMELLIA.

WHICH TO SELECT AND HOW TO CULTIVATE.

There are peculiarities about this noble plant which give it a place preëminent among all flowering plants. Whether we consider the beauty of its glossy dark green foliage, the splendor of its rich-colored rose-like flowers, or the length of time it is the chief ornament of our greenhouses during the winter months, it is admired by all, and deservedly so.

The Camellia is a native of China and Japan, from whence it was introduced into British gardens in the year 1739. In 1780 there were in cultivation, the single red, the old double white, and the old red striped. Since that time there has been introduced from China the species and varieties—Camellia curyoides, white; C. Kissii, white; C. oleifera, white; C. reticulata, red; C. sasanqua, rose; C. single white, and double red. From these have been raised, by hybridization and cultivation, in this country and Europe, the many fine varieties which are now the glory of our greenhouse; and very recently there has been added, by Mr. Robert Fortune, a collector sent to China by the London Horticultural Society, a yellow Camellia. Although a great acquisition, it is not a double imbricated flower, but proves to be one of the anemone flora tribe, the exterior petals being French white and the central ones rich primrose yellow.

In order to cultivate the Camellia with success, a suitable soil is of the first consequence. The one best suited to this plant we have found to be a fibrous, mellow loam, rather inclined to adhesiveness, to which may be added a small portion of sand. The soil should be procured, if possible, twelve months or more before required for use, during which time it should be frequently turned over and the turf chopped small with the spade, but not sifted. In potting, give a free drainage, adding a little coarse charcoal, over which place a thin layer of moss. Have the soil moderately dry, and in filling it round the ball, take care to do it in regular layers, pressing it rather firm, so that no space be left. The safest and best time to re-pot Camellias, is soon after they have made their young growth, as soon as the young leaves are perfectly developed, and the end of the young wood at the point of junction with the wood of the former year begins to turn brown, and the flower-buds can be just seen. The ball of the plant should be rather moist at the time of re-potting, and if in a very pot-bound state, should be immersed in water for an hour or so—allowing a day for the superfluous water to drain off before potting. After potting, the plants should be placed under cover, and protected from drying winds and sun for a few weeks.

As the flower buds advance, the plants must be well watered at the root whenever they require it, using twice a week liquid manure made from old rotten dung, in the proportion of one part liquid manure to four of clear water. The plants will now possess abundance of new fibers, and their powerful action, assisted by liquid manure occasionally, will produce both a fine plump bud and dark leaf, and enable the plant to store up abundance of necessary food for the expanding blossoms. A free use of the syringe over head will be highly beneficial when not in bloom.

At the respective periods of growth and flowering the plants will require carefully watering. During flowering, if not regularly supplied, the bloom buds will be very liable to fall off, instead of expanding into flower. At other times, a regular moderate supply is essential. The effect of constant watering may be presumed to diminish, or destroy the fertility of the small portion of earth allotted to each plant; therefore, at each repotting, carefully take away as much of the old soil as can be done without injuring the roots.

The Camellia may be considered strictly a hardy greenhouse plant, similar to the Myrtle, only requiring protection in severe weather; and if it is kept just above the freezing point, it will succeed much better than if kept in a high temperature. At the period of making their growth, an additional degree of heat will be found advantageous.

The insects that infest the Camellia are, the scaly insect, the thripps, and the ordinary aphides or geen fly. For the two last, fumigate with tobacco moderately for two nights in succession, at intervals, until they disappear. For the scale, add two ounces of whale oil soap to a gallon of warm water; beat well together and apply with a sponge.

The common earth-worm generally infests the Camellia, and does serious damage to the drainage. Should they appear in the soil, use a little clear lime or soot water, which will soon drive them from the ball.

A few of the best varieties for a small collection, out of the great number now in cultivation, are the following, from which the required number may be selected, beginning with the first named.

1. *Camellia alba pleno*—(Old double white) —Fine form; petals regularly imbricated; color pure white; large flower—one of the best.

2. *C. Candidissima*—Pure white; large; form perfect; very late bloomer.

3. *C. Leeana superba*—Vivid red; center rosy salmon; perfect form; imbricated—one of the finest grown.

4. *C. Duchess d'Orleans*—A pure waxy white, blotched and striped with bright rosy pink, clear and well defined—a beautiful flower.

5. *C. Matholtiana*—Very deep carmine red; fine form; the best red.

6. *C. fimbriata*—Fine clear white; perfect form; the edges of the petals fimbriated; a lovely flower, and universally admired.

7. *C. Henri Favre*—Light rose; beautiful imbricated form—a superior flower.

8. *C. Imbricata*—Color carmine or deep rose, often striped with white; beautifully imbricated—the best of its class.

9. *C. Wilderii*—Color very clear bright rose; superb form; free bloomer—one of the best.

10. *C. Mrs. Abby Wilder*—A fine large imbricated flower; white, faintly blotched and striped with rose; superb; robust habit.

11. *C. Teutonia*—A fine white, flaked and spotted with violet; very clear—a splendid flower.

12. *C. Princess Bachiochii*—A rich dark crimson, spotted and striped with white—a splendid flower.

13. *C. Lowii*—Deep carmine, sometimes striped with white; finely imbricated—a noble flower.

14. *C. Queen Victoria*—A fine variety; rich rosy carmine, with a white stripe down the petals—superb.

15. *C. Sacoii nova*—Clear light rose; superb form; beautifully veined—extra flower.

16. *C. Jeffersonii*—Fine bright red, with clear white stripe down the center of each petal—novel and superb.

17. *C. Sovereign*—Waxy white; flaked and spotted; light rose—beautiful flower.

18. *C. Chandlerii elegans*—Bright red; blotched and striped pure white; large flower; very showy.

19. *C. Emperor*—A noble flower; cherry red; monstrous flower—the largest known in cultivation.

20. *C. Lady Hume*—A fine variety; white, beautifully tinged with flesh.

FIGURES ABOUT NEW-YORK STATE.

In reading over the Governor's Message, we were forcibly impressed with the magnitude of some of the figures incidentally presented; such, for instance, as the following:

Population.—The population of the State on the 1st of June, 1855, was 3,470,063, an increase of one-third in 10 years, and more than all in the whole country at the time of the Declaration of Independence. There are 516,745 native voters, and 135,976 naturalized voters; 632,746 foreign-born persons in all, or less than one-fifth; 35,923 colored persons, and 3,945 Indians.

Emigrants.—Only 136,233 emigrants landed in New-York in 1855; in 1854 there were 319,223.

Schools.—More than $3,000,000 were paid in 1855 for the education of 998,273 children between the ages of 4 and 16. There were besides 225,854 children not attending school. Many of these are those between 4 and 6 years of age. There are 11,028 school-houses, of which 9,356 are frame buildings, 715 of brick, 576 of stone, and 381 of logs!

State Prisons.—There are three of these which held, incarcerated, December 1st, 1,905 prisoners, viz.: at Sing Sing, 937; at Auburn, 687; at Clinton, 281. To support these for one year cost $223,343. Of this the prisoners earned $198,230.

Canals.—Owing to the abundant crops, the canal tolls for 1855 amounted to nearly three millions of dollars ($2,804,800.

Railroads.—There are in this State 3,216 miles of railroad track, requiring in their construction a continuous bar of iron 6,432 miles in length, and probably weighing over three hundred million pounds. These railroads cost more than $120,000,000. During 1855 the cars carried nearly thirty-four million (33,839,164) passengers, a greater number than the whole population of the United States. The earnings of these roads were

$20,843,385 ; the expenses $11,310,720.

Salt.—At Syracuse six million bushels of salt were made in 1855, and it is expected that seven millions will be manufactured in 1856.

GARDENING BY THE INEXPERIENCED.

That gardening by men who understand the business will pay very well, is a fact well ascertained. But that it will pay a man who does not know one garden tool from another, is a matter of much uncertainty. Many think they have actually demonstrated that it will not pay. They have hired a piece of ground, bought manure, and set a man at work, and the grand result was, that their potatoes cost them two dollars a bushel, and their peas a dollar a peck, when they could purchase the same articles in market at one fourth the price. They know that it will not pay.

There are failures in gardening, no doubt, and the causes are so obvious that it would seem the bare detail of them would be enough to guard all future experiments against their repetition. They are almost always traceable to ignorance of the conditions of success. Soil, manure, and a common laborer are by no means a recipe for a family supply of good vegetables. The conductor of the experiment must either have knowledge enough of husbandry to supervise the operations himself, or procure a workman acquainted with gardening. In either of these cases, the cultivation of the soil will pay liberally.

It is not necessary that a man should have been bred a farmer or a gardener, in order to make his garden profitable. And one of ordinary intelligence, if he have the leisure to inform himself, by reading the journals and hand books which treat of rural affairs, will soon make the garden as profitable as it is pleasant. His failures will be his best teachers, if he will pursue his investigations till he find out their causes. There must be knowledge in this business as in all others, if we would succeed.

Some fail by cultivating the land with little or no manure. They grudge the expense of fifty dollars laid out in this article, for an acre of land. They get but half crops, and this hardly pays for the labor. A very few put on too much manure, and the seed is burnt up, and by the time they discover their error, the most favorable time for planting has past. Of course they do not have full crops. More put on none too much manure, but it is not mixed sufficiently with the soil, or too much of it is put in the hill. An ounce of guano in the wrong place will destroy at least one hill of corn, and injure any other garden seed. Others again fail in tillage. When all other things are right, they are a little too late with the hoeing, the weeds get the start, and keep it through the season. Others have a pretty good garden, but think it costs about as much as it comes to. They keep no account of it, and can not tell how much they expend upon it, or how much the product is worth at market. We suspect a good many of this class would have their doubts removed if they would make an estimate of the value of all the luxuries that come from their gardens.

Our experience is, that gentlemen engaged in other pursuits may relieve the monotony of their vocation by gardening, not only with great advantage to their minds and health, but to their purse. Every one who lives out of the city, or who can command a quarter of an acre of soil, should grow his own vegetables, or supervise the labor necessary to grow them. He will be surprised to find how large a variety, and how great a quantity, of vegetables and fruits can be produced from so small a garden. He will be still more surprised to see the difference between the products of his own garden, coming in the best condition to his table, and the stale products of the market. He would never be content to go back again to purchased vegetables. We find our own garden pays better every succeeding year, and as the larger fruits are not yet in full bearing, it can hardly fail to enlarge its productiveness for years to come.

This is, we believe, the general experience of our neighbors. One of them, on a spot hardly so big as his house and yard, has raised a full supply of green corn, a fine lot of potatoes, besides squashes, cucumbers, beans, and other matters. The raspberries and strawberries are coming, besides a few larger fruit trees. Another, on about an acre of land, which he has cultivated himself, has raised and sold vegetables to the amount of one hundred and ten dollars, besides all that has been consumed in his family. He had no hot beds for forcing, and the vegetables were sold at the common market price. Another, who has kept a gardener and cultivated a little more land, has made sales to the amount of over seven hundred dollars the past season.

But it seems degrading to bring so beautiful a calling to the test of dollars and cents. We would have a garden, and live in it two hours a day, if we had to pay for it. This we trust will be the experience of our inexperienced friends.

POTATO BREAD, GOOD AND PROFITABLE.

A GOOD WAY TO MAKE IT.

We mean just what we have written above. Potatoes can easily be added to flour so as to make the bread cheaper than that from flour alone. Potatoes cost only 50 to 60 cents a bushel, in most places, where flour costs ten to twelve dollars per barrel. A bushel of potatoes contain 15 to 20 pounds of solid material, just as good for food as the same weight of dry flour. Allowing for the water in each, the dry potato costs, say three to four cents per pound, the dry flour six to seven cents, or nearly twice as much. To make potato bread :

Pare and boil a quantity of good potatoes, and then mash them well, and add water enough to make a thick fluid. Strain this mixture through a sieve ; add yeast, and stir in, previously warmed, flour enough to make dough of the usual consistency. Knead, raise, and bake, just as for pure flour bread.

Made in this way, the bread will be light, "short" or tender, easy to digest, and very pleasant to the taste. Try it. The method is simple. The quantity of potatoes may be very indefinite. Perhaps the best proportion is about one quart of potatoes for four or five pounds of flour.

A SIGHT WORTH SEEING.

Not all the shows and exhibitions of New-York City put together can begin to equal in beauty and attractiveness one we almost daily witness, which can be seen in a short ride, requiring little expense, and less time to reach it from Fulton Ferry than it takes to go to the Crystal Palace. We refer to the magnificent collection of Camellias now in bloom on the grounds of Messrs. Parsons, at Flushing. Just think of it—right in mid-winter you can see, in a single glass-covered house devoted especially to this purpose, some *five thousand* Camellias, many of which are in bloom. Among these are plants in every stage of growth ; the full expanded flowers and the buds just opening their beautiful petals to the sun contrast their snowy whiteness or scarlet brilliancy with the rich glossy green of the supporting leaf. Every body who has seen one Camellia flower, will long will long to visit the above collection, which is always open, without charge, to any who may wish to call. Mr. Cadness, who has charge of this and the other greenhouses, is generally present to wait upon any visitors.

To reach Flushing is an easy matter. From the Fulton pier, adjoining Fulton Ferry, in New-York, the steamer Island City leaves for Flushing daily at 6½, 8, and 10, A. M., and at 2, 4, and 6 oclock, P. M., *via* the Flushing Railroad. The whole passage-time, by boat and cars, is from 50 to 55 or 60 minutes. The cars leave Flushing for New-York at the same hours, viz: at 6½, 8, 10, 1, 4, and 6.* We pass over this route morning and evening, and generally find it much more comfortable, and occupying less time, than the usual conveyances to our home when we lived in the upper part of this city. The fare, including boat and cars, is only 25 cents. We advise our friends living in the city, and those who may chance there during this month or the fore part of March, to spend two or three hours to see the Camellias. Our office is only a couple of blocks from the starting point, where any one desiring further directions will be assisted with pleasure.

Catching Snails and Grubs.—The Gardener's Chronicle, (Eng.,) recommends scattering a little oatmeal, about sundown, in the places where these plant pests, so troublesome in England, most abound. About an hour later, a good army of them will be congregated together feasting upon the meal, when they may be gathered up and destroyed The best time to catch them is just after a rain. A correspondent who tried this method states, that in a strawberry bed, he captured five thousand in half an hour. Wonder how long it took him to count them?

Just now, and for three weeks past, the regular trips of the Island City have been interrupted by ice in the East River. This will be obviated as soon as a warm spell occurs. Within the memory of the "oldest inhabitant," there has not been so much obstruction from running ice.

Errata.—In making up and printing the next eight pages before the rest of the paper, the compositor committed a blunder in the paging.

The pages—97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, should be—105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112.

The * figures and the last eight are in regular order as they will stand in the bound volumes, and the sheets wrongly paged are stitched in their regular place, so that no difficulty will be experienced. This is the first serious error our printer has committed in a long engagement, during which he has set in their proper places millions of figures and letters; and considering that he, like "all the rest of us," has been "snowed under" half the time for a month past, we ask our readers to do as we (editorially) will this time, "touch him lightly."

TO CULTIVATORS OF SMALL PLOTS OF GROUND.

We find among our readers an increasing number of those who are engaged in various business pursuits in this and in other cities, but who have their suburban homes where they own or rent small plots, varying in size from an eighth of an acre, to three or four or more. Such persons have little time, perhaps only a morning or evening hour, to devote to their homesteads, and having a limited experience in garden or flower culture, they are often sorely puzzled to know how they can best use the little time, and the small space of ground at their disposal. The instructions found in books, or derived from professional gardeners, are often two voluminous or too indefinite to supply them with just the kind of information they need. To supply this want, in a measure, we have commenced a series of practical articles, in which we propose to direct to the selection of some of the *best* varieties of flowers, shade trees, garden vegetables, &c., where only few are required, and to add plain and simple details for their cultivation.

In this number will be found articles giving directions for making a small collection of the roses, another about camellias, and others upon Work for the Month, Early Tomatoes, Radishes in March, Garden Soils, Gardening by the inexperienced, Grape Vines and Cuttings, Raising Plums, Pears, Bees, &c., &c.

In the December number of this volume (xv), at page 66, will be found ample directions for selecting some of the best shade trees, for private as well as public grounds. Those who find it convenient to refer to our thirteenth volume, at page 166, will find a description of a "Mechanic's half acre," showing how much, and how great a variety has been, and may be raised by one who has only a village lot, and who works ten hours a day in his shop. The article is illustrated by a cut, showing the location and names of the trees, shrubs, vines, fruit trees, vegetable plots, &c. Those who can not conveniently obtain that volume, are invited to call in at any time and spend an hour or two in looking over our office copies.

We may be allowed to say, that in preparing these articles we are assisted by a number of gentlemen who are considered the best authority upon the various topics discussed, and we feel quite sure that full reliance may be placed upon the directions given. We shall devote considerable space to this branch of culture in each succeeding number, for such topics are not only useful and interesting to the class of persons indicated above, but also to all classes of soil cultivators, especially to those who are waking up to the subject of improving and adorning their gardens and other grounds connected with their rural homes.

LOOK WELL TO YOUR CELLARS.

In these cold nights, when the mercury goes below zero, the frost will penetrate the warmest cellars, unless they have a temporary embankment upon the outside. The bank is sometimes washed by the rain during a thaw, and needs replacing. Snow is a good substitute for dirt where it can be had, and a pile of snow about the cellar windows will save your roots from the frost. If the frost has unfortunately reached the potatoes, cover them with hay, or with any other convenient material, that it may be drawn out slowly. Fruits and vegeteables are not so much injured by freezing, as by sudden thawing. Even apples may be slightly frozen without injury, if they are covered with a thick cloth, and kept in a room of low temperature. Potatoes will be in good demand in the spring. Let them not be injured in their storage. A little extra attention to the cellar at this season will be money in your pocket.

EARLY TOMATOES.

This is one of the most difficult of vegetables to force, and should be started very early in order to anticipate the season. Those who have greenhouses, and hot beds need no other facilities. But those who have only a stand of parlor plants, and keep up a constant fire for them, can start a few tomatoes with very little trouble. Take a half dozen 4 or 5 inch pots, and plant two or three seeds in each, in rich garden loam. The pots can stand with the other house plants, and receive the same watering and attention. When the plants are well started, pull up all but the most vigorous one in each pot. Stir the earth frequently around them, and they will grow rapidly and fill the whole pot with a mass of fine roots, by the last of May, when they will probably be in blossom. If they have rich soil and a good exposure on the south side of a wall or fence, they will suffer little check in the transplanting, and you will get tomatoes much earlier than from seed planted in the open ground in April.

Our *terms* are advance payment. We no more think of sending this journal for a year and then asking pay for it, than would a book publisher of sending his books unordered all over the country, and then send out bills at the end of the year, asking pay for them. Let it be understood, that wherever this paper is sent, *it is considered paid for*.

We sometimes direct specimen copies to persons not subscribers. These are designed as a compliment, or to invite examination, and subscription if the paper is *liked*. Such copies need not be returned. When done with them, please pass them along to a neighbor.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

Pipes for Water.—E. V. Allen, Chatauque Co., N. Y.—Your inquiries as to iron and lead pipes are pretty fully answered on page 88 of the January number. Where water for drinking and cooking is moved slowly or only occasionally through lead pipes, they are generally objectionable. If there is a constant and somewhat rapid flow, there is little or no danger. In using lead pipes, long or short, all the water standing in them for any length of time should be entirely drawn off before any is taken for drinking or preparing food for man or beast. We are not aware that water-lime is used alone in the construction of pipes for conveying water. It is substituted for common lime in making mortar for laying brick and stone aqueducts. The price of water lime—usually called "hydraulic cement"—is very variable, depending upon its quality, the nearness of the locality where it is found, the abundance of mills for grinding it, &c. The present New-York price is $1 to $1 50 per bbl.

Beet Sugar.—P. W., Castleton, N. Y.—The manufacture of sugar from beets has been several times undertaken in this country, but has been immediately relinquished in every instance, we believe. Nothing but a high bounty from government, or the exclusion of foreign sugars by a high protective tariff, will at present warrant any one in going into its manufacture. Even then, cane sugar could be raised enough cheaper to successfully compete with it. We have no American treatise upon this subject, though some of the older volumes of the Patent Office Report, issued, say between 1840 and 1846, contain considerable information. There are some French treatises quite full and explicit. An editorial upon the culture of sugar beets for feeding, may be found on page 113 of our last volume (xiv).

THE PAIRING OF POULTRY.

Whether or not the gander seeks his mate on St. Valentine's day, as all orthodox poultry women believe, it is a due time to make arrangements for the accommodation of your several varieties of poultry. The promiscuous herding of all sorts may be permitted in the fall and early winter, when you are looking mainly for flesh and eggs. But now that the breeding season approaches, it is important that they should have yards by themselves. The geese need a quiet pasture or meadow near the house. The several breeds of gallinaceous fowls require seperate yards early in the season, if you mean to keep the breeds in their greatest purity. If you want strong healthy chicks to rear for stock, confine your cock to four or five hens. Fifty Dorkings, the best of their kind, are better than a hundred poor late chickens. The more May chickens you can get the better.

A TRIP TO THE WEST—No. 3.

(*CONCLUDED.*)

THE STATE OF ILLINOIS—ITS AGRICULTURE.

Illinois is one of the largest of the States which lie east of the Mississippi. From the north to the extreme south-western point it courses over 5½ degrees of latitude, and is, on an average, nearly two hundred miles wide. It contains over twelve million acres, one half of which is in cultivated farms. It is universally prolific in the growth of Indian corn, the coarser cereal grains, and a large portion of the land yields wheat. The grasses grow everywhere, and the fruits of the climate produce well in most localities. Without mountains or marshes to any considerable extent, the whole surface, indeed, is capable of becoming productive in a high degree, and all of exceeding natural fertility. It has extensive beds of lead and iron; immeasurable mines of coal; vast forests of valuable timber; inexhaustible quarries of stone; a great extent of water-power; large commercial towns; many navigable streams; a canal a hundred miles in length; and a surface over which railways may be laid with a facility and cheapness rarely equaled. Thousands of miles of these are already completed, running in all directions, and thousands of miles more in contemplation, which the demands of an increasing and active population will construct and use. With a mild and healthful climate, free labor, and a ready market, human calculation can hardly estimate the productive wealth of this mighty State, already counting 1,300,000 people—the fourth in the Union! To say that its agriculture is in a *high* condition of excellence, would be to contradict that of all countries so new; but when we say that there is already *much really good* agriculture in the State, and that it is, altogether, improving, is true in an eminent degree. The extensive display of agricultural implements at Chicago, which were constructed in almost every quarter of the State, and the show of superior grains, and domestic animals, settle the question—if question could be raised—that the farmers of Illinois are becoming awake to their interests in the improvement of their lands, the comparative diminution of manual labor in the cultivation of their crops, the enjoyment of domestic luxuries, and the stocking of their farms with better animals. The construction of railways have doubled the value of their improved farms, and trebled that of the unoccupied lands; and although the railways themselves may, many of them, prove *unremunerative*, as independent property, to the stockholders, as unquestionably they must, they *will* continue to be made, regardless of such results, so long as the community shall require them for their convenience. Millions of dollars worth of cattle, hogs, and grain, have this season been purchased of the farmers at their own doors, deliverable and paid for at the nearest railway station or boating town, which is seldom many miles distant, and at prices which five years ago they could scarcely dream of. Such is Illinois.

CAIRO—THE OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS.

Had the site of Cairo been an elevated bottom, out of the reach of floods, instead of a low inundated flat, it would, in all probability, concurrent with the settlements of St. Louis, Cincinnati, or Louisville, have superseded them all as the grand distributing point of the commerce of the Lower Mississippi, to the various points on the navigable waters above; but lying on a low bottom, it was subject to frequent overflows, and although a settlement for commercial objects had been many times attempted, it was as often abandoned, until the great Central Railway was projected to reach from the extreme northern sections of the State to its southwest extremity at its most available commercial point. This decided the *fact* of Cairo as a future commercial city—and it *will be built*. The trade and travel of southern, central and northern Illinois demands it; the Central Railway terminates at it; there is sufficient of capital and enterprise combined to overcome its geographical deficiencies, and the destiny of the future city is settled—not in extent, but as a practicable, available place. A glance at the map will show its capacity to accommodate extensive and indispensable routes of travel, while its convenience as an outlet for the surplus crops of Central Illinois, and a point at which to receive the products of the Lower Mississippi, must be obvious to any accurate observer. Now for the place—*as it is*.

The latitude of Cairo is 37° North, in about the same parallel with Norfolk in Virginia, and 5½ degrees south of the north line of Illinois. Aside from the temporary stagnant waters which the overflow of the rivers may leave around it, the place might be tolerably healthy. Liable to such occurrences, it will for many years be subject to occasional miasmatic diseases, which, however, may be greatly relieved by a retreat into the high, healthy back grounds in its immediate neighborhood. The Ohio, a few miles above, deviating from its main southwardly course, makes a detour to the south-east, and comes sweeping down into the embraces of the Mississippi, in a curve of exceeding beauty and grandeur, washing the front of the town along a bank some fifteen feet in hight. It is here upwards of half a mile wide, with a gentle current of perhaps two and a half miles an hour, at a medium stage of water, as when we saw it. The opposite Kentucky shore is of about equal elevation, heavily wooded, as is that of Illinois just above the town, with no single sign of cultivation in view. Along the river bank a wide, strong levee above the reach of flood has been thrown up, extending from its mouth a mile or more up the stream, and then making into the land across the bottom connecting with the table-land two or three miles back. On this levee, perhaps forty feet wide at the top, runs the railway, with temporary freight and passenger offices in rear, while in front, heavily chained to the bank, floats a large warehouse in the stream at its foot. Along by the side of this warehouse lie steamboats, as they touch to discharge or take on passengers or freight which the railway brings to or takes away from the place. The surface back of this levee is sunk perhaps fifteen feet below it—a low, black, repulsive soil for building upon, laid out in blocks and streets, on which are scattered a few wood and brick houses occupied as dwellings and stores. One, and only one, of the dwelling-houses looked *really* comfortable, while the foreground was occupied by a great, uncouth wooden "hotel," as dirty and comfortless a place, to well-conditioned people, as need be. If the proprietors of Cairo have the slightest wish to give the public a favorable impression of their future city, let them at once provide a decent, well-kept resting-place for the traveler and visitor, and we assure them it will add immeasurably to their good opinion of the town. Important improvements are projected and commenced. Among these is an immense warehouse for the storage of grain, just behind the levee, 450 feet in length, and several stories high. A large flouring-mill of ten or twelve runs of stone is about to be built, as we were informed, together with other improvements which will give life and activity to its commerce, and become the nuclei of a successful business. A single steamboat from Louisville touched, the day we spent there, and discharged some freight and took on a few railway passengers for various places below. Several other steamboats passed each way, a straggling "flat" now and then, and a few arks floated down the river. Large sums of money have been expended here in securing the levee, and erecting buildings, and many failures of the works occurred before the levee, which is the important feature of a successful result, was completed. That has now a firm and permanent appearance, and paved, as now commenced, will answer all purposes. We asked the price of lots. "Two or three thousand dollars," we were told must be paid for a front of fifty feet on the levee, by a hundred feet in depth. They may have cost that to the owners, no doubt, for the levee itself must have been very expensive, although the rear lots are equally benefitted by its construction. They may be worth it, possibly, to those who go there to establish a permanent business, and none others, we fancy, will contemplate a residence at such a spot. But *necessity will build Cairo*, and the greed of gain will furnish it a population as fast as the demands of business will require them. On the west, or rather southern side of the town, the Mississippi comes whirling along its rapid, muddy, curdling flood, cutting into the banks of the thrifty young cottonwoods which stand bristling upon the unctuous clayey bottom. The extreme point of land at the confluence of the two rivers runs off into a low, oozy beach; the current of the Mississippi was perhaps five miles an hour at the time, and nearly a mile in breadth. Above, half a mile, is a low spit of sand and gravel making into the stream, while opposite is a bushy island of some acres in extent; and on the Missouri side stretches off a considerable farm, with a tolerable house upon it—the only signs of life in that quarter. Below, the joining rivers pursued their course, and turning a reach in the distance, disappeared in the vast low wilderness.

THE MISSISSIPPI CATFISH.

While looking out from the levee in the afternoon, a couple of fishermen brought, in a skiff from the opposite side of the Ohio, several enormous catfish, just freshly caught with their hooks. To one unaccustomed to this variety, they present a most uncouth and forbidding appearance. They are a gigantic variety of the eastern bull-head, or "pout," about one-fourth of the whole size being appropriated to the head—the widest part of the whole fish—with a gradual taper to the tail. The smallest of these fish weighed upwards of forty pounds, and the largest eighty-two. The fishermen called them the "Mississippi cat," being much larger and of slightly different color from the "Ohio cat." They have been caught of 247 pounds' weight, we were told, by an old settler and fisherman; but such specimens are rare. They are not a fish of high flavor, but rather coarse, and oily. The head is the best part. We have eaten them baked that were really delicious.

LEAVING CAIRO.

It was now the 18th day of October. The previous morning, at Dubuque, the forests were glowing in the sere and yellow leaf of falling autumn. The fields had all been cut by the frost some weeks before, and so they were all the way down until we struck the timber region of lower Illinois. But at Cairo the forest leaves were green, almost as in midsummer. The frost had scarcely touched a garden vegetable, and the weather was warm, like summer.

We had arrived at Cairo about 8 o'clock in the morning, having rode through a bright moonlight night, intending to spend the coming night in the town, and leave the next morning. But that "hotel"! We concluded rather to bear the discomfort of a second night in the cars, and so, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, left Cairo on our return to the north.

THE CENTRAL RAILWAY—ITS MANAGEMENT.

This Railway—in its construction and completeness; its wonderful straightness; its immense length of uniformly level grade; the ample width of its roadway; its turnouts; its neat, commodious, and tasteful station-houses; its comfortable and timely eating establishments; the liberal and frequent accommodations for the storage and security of its freight; its spacious, well built cars; its civil and attentive conductors; the care of its engineers, and the uniform rate of speed in travel—for so new a road, is certainly a model affair. Twenty-two hours of continuous travel is occupied between Dunleith and Cairo, a distance of 454 miles, averaging a trifle over twenty miles an hour. About the same rate of travel per hour is allowed from Cairo to Chicago. Few accidents occur on this road; and why should they occur at all? It has no rival parallel roads to compete with. Its conductors are *never in a hurry*. Their trains are not numerous—two only of passengers and one of freight each way daily—and they can *afford* to be careful. Success to their labors!

BACK TO CHICAGO.

We passed a comfortable night on the cars, and sunrise found us at Decatur, where we took breakfast. Continuing north, at Mendota, between La Salle and Dixon, where the Chicago and Burlington road crosses the Illinois Central, we left the latter, and taking the cars of the other, turned to the east. On the line of the Chicago and Burlington road lie several thriving towns and small villages surrounded by a rich and rapidly improving country. The labor of utility and the hand of taste have been skilfully combined, and as a matter of course with successful results. Oswego, Aurora, and Batavia, would be beautiful villages, with their bright and clear Fox River running through them, if dropped down in the midst of New-England or Central New-York. "It *does* take the Yankees and York Staters to build a handsome town!" as they say "out west." At Junction, where several roads come together, thirty-two miles west of Chicago, we struck the combined track, and arrived in the city at 8 o'clock in the evening.

We return our thanks to the Illinois Central Railroad Company for their liberality in thus giving us a gratuitous opportunity to see their noble State; and in part payment therefor, hereby give them this "first-rate notice"—suggesting, however, that when they again extend to us a like invitation, after going six hundred miles to reach them, they give us *full* "passes," not only to *leave* Chicago, but to *get back* again—as they did not—leaving us to pay our fare over the Chicago and Burlington, to the tune of six dollars and odd, when the Central had the full option to run us over it—if they pleased.

Peppermint Raising.—I planted four acres of Peppermint in the fall of 1854, between the 25th and 30th of October, planting it two feet apart. Marked the ground by making two marks at a time, also covered two rows at once by means of a sort of plow drawn by a horse. The ground was summer fallowed, and in good order. Soil a mixture of sand, gravel and clay. Below I give a list of all work, and cost, including board:

EXPENSES.

16	days	digging and setting roots	$16 00
4	"	team work	4 00
6½	"	man and horse cultivating	8 75
26	"	hoeing	26 00
16	"	mowing and raking	26 00
2	"	drawing, (2 hands and team,)	6 00
Cost of distilling, 37½ cts. per lb.			50 00
		Total	$130 75

RECEIPTS.

133½ lbs. of mint, $3 75 per lb.	$500 62
Profit	$360 87

Last spring I undertook to try an experiment with fall and spring setting, but the weather was so dry in the spring that it did not do well, so I will say no more about the experiment. I am highly in favor of fall setting on land that will not heave the roots out.—Cor. Rural New-Yorker.

A mean freedom is more naturally desired than a golden servitude. Fetters of gold are fetters, after all.

SOME TRIALS OF BONE-DUST AND OTHER FERTILIZERS.

Nothing is more important in the present condition of agriculture than a series of well conducted experiments with the various fertilizers, not only upon the different kinds of soils but also with the various kinds of cultivated crops. Many experiments have already been made, but nearly all of them have been defective in some particular. One of the most frequent defects is the absence of the elements of comparison; thus, for illustration, a farmer tries bone-dust upon a plot of wheat, but instead of leaving a part untreated, he scatters the fertilizer over the whole field and it is not possible to judge what effect the bone-dust has produced in that particular season. In the following experiments communicated to the Germantown Telegraph, the defect alluded to was avoided, though we should value the results still higher, had the bone-dust in each instance been applied *alone*, and so also the gypsum. We should further like to know exactly the kind and quality of soil, and the time and manner of applying the manures. The experiments are, however, quite superior to the generality of these reported to the press, and we give them in the language of the writer:

In order to test the value of bone manure as a stimulant, I last season made the following experiment. On a piece of light soil that had been pastured for a period of upwards of thirty-five years, and which had been broken up deeply, and with an even and perfectly inverted furrow slice, the previous autumn, I sowed twenty-five bushels of bone dust and wood ashes, half and half, after harrowing, and sowed on oats, two and three-fourths bushels to the acre, the surface being limited by accurate measurement. On an adjoining piece of equal extent, sowed also in oats, the same quantity as in the first case, twelve bushels of ashes alone were used, and on a third piece—one acre in extent—the oats were sowed without any ashes or other stimulant whatever being applied. The same quantity of seed precisely, was allowed on each acre, and the sowing was done on the same day, as was the preparation of the soil, and harrowing in of the seed.

On harvesting and threshing the crop, I ascertained the following results: The acre not manured, produced twenty-one and a half bushels; straw tall and very heavy. The acre manured with twelve bushels of wood-ashes, yielded twenty-seven bushels and five quarts, with a thinner and more delicate straw; while the product of the boned and ashed amounted to forty-seven and three-fourths bushels, the straw being fine and short, the principal development being in the *heads*.

On another piece I planted beans. Four rows of one hundred hills each were bone dusted, the next four were manured with poudrette, the next four with wood ashes and gypsum, four rows on the side of the piece, but adjoining the other twelve, were planted without any manure whatever being applied. The after culture was in every respect precisely the same. On harvesting the crop it was ascertained that the boned rows had produced double the quantity yielded by the four undressed rows. The rows dressed with poudrette yielded somewhat less than the four treated with dust, but owing to a slight oversight, the exact quantity was not ascertained.

From these and similar data, I am persuaded not only of the value of bone-dust as a manure, but of its economy as a stimulant to be applied on field crops. Several experiments on turnips, all of which were conducted with the most scrupulous accuracy, corroborate the correctness of this opinion.

I think that a little more liberality on the part of our agriculturists would be far more creditable, especially as the present depressed condition of the art demands the vigorous coöperation of all its friends in order to insure its advancement, and without this coöperation it can never progress, or be productive of the results of which it *ought to be*, and of which it unquestionably *is* capable.

On a piece of light land, on the farm of one of my neighbors, one bushel of bone-dust was sowed on grass land, rather light and thin. The surface was somewhat undulating, but not sufficiently so to be considered broken; the extent somewhat less than one-fourth of an acre. On an adjoining piece, in every respect similar in texture and constitution, one bushel of poudrette was applied, and on a third piece three bushels of ashes—all three of the articles being broadcasted, the time being the 21st of May. The land had been five years in grass without any dressing, and was rather poor. The first section, or that which had been dusted, produced seven hundred and eight pounds; the second, or that on which poudrette was used, yielded seven hundred and thirty-six pounds, and the third, manured with the three bushels of ashes five hundred, eighteen and one-half pounds. The grass on the three pieces was cut on the same day, all cured alike, and weighed on the same scales. The increase of yield, in consequence of the application of these substances, was considerably over thirty-five per cent.

Such facts are of importance and should be so regarded by all. A FARMER.

GRAIN FOR FRANCE.—The Rochester Union states that the agents of the French Emperor have been largely engaged this fall in purchasing wheat in the west, on his account. They have purchased 900,000 bushels, of which 650,000 came to Buffalo and 250,000 bushels to Oswego. All but 40,000 went down the Erie Canal. The same agents are still buying in Illinois and other western States, to go down the Mississippi and out by New-Orleans.

Some wag sent an editor the first chapter of Matthew, as an original communication for his paper. The editor thought it was all right, and inserted it under the head of "communications."

It is less pain to learn in youth than to be ignorant in age.

OUR MUTTON MARKETS.

Why is it that we see so little *really good* mutton in our public markets? It is about the *best* fresh meat that we can obtain, *when good*. The common mutton is—and no secret either—bad; in most cases, scarcely eatable; and it is impossible to make *good* mutton out of *such* sheep as our farmers breed for such purposes. In the first place, the proper anatomy or *frame* of the animal is wanting. Neither our old-fashioned "common" sheep—of which millions are yet propagated in the country, particularly in the western States—nor the Merino, are properly *built* for the purposes of good mutton. They are thin, gaunt, and scraggy, and their meat, as a consequence, lean, tough, and stringy. Even when "well fatted"—if such a thing can be—they are inferior, and, on good tables, little or nothing is used but the hind quarters—and poor at that. The improved English breeds, Cotswold or Southdowns, are the true mutton sheep, and why, when they are so easily obtained at very moderate prices, as they can be in this country, it is passing strange, that our farmers are so neglectful of them.

According to our late market reports, "common" sheep and lambs are worth $3 75 each, while "extra" are worth $10 to $12. By "common," are meant the old-fashioned American sheep, and Merinoes and their crosses upon the American, while "extra" are the Long-wooled and Southdown varieties. The "common" are three to four years old, and the "extras" two to three years. It costs just as much to breed and raise one as the other, but the fattening, mainly done on grass, is all on the side of the improved breeds. The common breed, *i. e.* the old-fashioned, and the Merino and their crosses, will, with ever-so-much grass and grain, take on flesh and fat only in certain parts of the body and on the kidneys, while the improved ones will fat all over, like a pig. Consequently, while the common thing has a fore-quarter scarcely fit to eat, the other has a full carcass, rich, fleshy and juicy, from the "scrag" to the "hocks"—all good and edible, for the very best tables.

Why do not our western farmers go into good mutton, instead of running, as they do, into beef and pork, exclusively? It seems to us they will find their account in it. No animal treats land so lightly as a sheep. None grazes on coarser—if dry—herbage. They will summer well in a bush pasture where a bullock would starve. They will winter out, on bare ground, where a "neat" animal can not get enough for a cud. They are every way an economical creature. Their fleece will usually pay for the annual keeping. Do, we beseech you, both our eastern and western friends, go into the breeding of good sheep, and supply our markets with good mutton.

A wag, on seeing a pet poodle which had been shorn of its fleecy coat, remarked that he deemed the act which had divested the animal of its covering *shear* cruelty.

MISSISSIPPI CORN AHEAD.—"SOME PUMPKINS."

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

I do not design to brag over an Everett or a Rives, over Massachusetts or Virginia, but I can not help it. Mississippi has some showing where corn is the question. On page 53 you allude to "some corn." I have an ear now on my desk, raised here, eleven inches long, nine inches in circumference, twenty-two rows, fifty-two grains in each row—1,144 grains *now* on the cob, and one inch of the small end with grains accidentally off by handling and the result of the weevil. I count, by distinct depressions where grains were, 132 grains off, which, added to the above, gives 1,276 grains originally, at least. This ear I picked out of a wagon when hauling in corn, without selecting. I have another ear, accidentally picked up as the above, with twenty-six rows and over 1,000 grains. I know not that I could do better, but if beaten will try again.

I had, of our common pumpkins, 77½ and 78½ lbs. each; and some 80 loads of box-body's containing 162 and 177 cubic feet—holding by my count 54 and 59 bushels of corn in the shuck [husk].

The corn is as pure "gourd seed" as I can get—preferred because less depredated upon by weevil. Is the quantity and coarseness of husk the preventative—being too much for weevil to deposit eggs through?

I think I have seen more grains on other ears than mine contains, and this one is preserved not for the quantity, nor the size of the ear, but for the regularity of grains.

M. W. PHILIPS.

EDWARDS, Miss.

WE submit the above to Mr. F. R. Rives, of Virginia, and Hon. Edward Everett, of Massachusetts. They will both have to try their hands again at raising corn, or own beat.

However, Mr. Rives's ear of corn was two inches longer than that of Mr. Philips, tho' one inch less in circumference—so that the superficial area of each is about the same. We propose that both gentlemen shell the ears, and send us ths exact avordupois *weight* of corn.

Will Uncle Sam please call in and give an account of himself? We want to know why the above letter was 21 days in coming to New-York.

Poets say, "follow nature." Painters say, "follow nature." Actors say "follow nature." It strikes us that this following nature is about being played out. Mr. C., the farmer, followed nature one year, and what did he get—a crop of mullen instead of "yaller corn." Nature is rather a wayward young lady. She runs as strongly to weeds as the Gulf Stream or a young widow contemplating marriage. Nature has but a small idea of utility. Let her alone for a year, and the whole country would be covered with thistles and stramonium. Nature should not be followed, but improved.

The bread of life is love; the salt of life is work.

$4,356 WORTH OF PEARS ON AN ACRE.

The Ellsworth (Maine) American tells us that Mr. C. A. Nealey, of Eddington, Penobscott County, recently took into the village, one morning, forty bushels of pears, and retailed them out in less than an hour, for two dollars per bushel, or eighty dollars. Twenty bushels of these pears grew upon one tree, making the product worth forty dollars. Now, we will allow that tree a plot of ground just twenty feet square, or four hundred square feet, which is all that a pear tree of anything like modest pretensions would require. An acre, then, would contain one hundred and eight and nine-tenths such plots, and, *of course*, just that number of pear trees. The product of these, at forty dollars per tree, is *at the rate of* $4,356 per acre.

If anybody is disposed to criticise this method of estimating, we shall fall back upon the example of the "distinguished agriculturist," who raised such unheard-of crops of cabbages and potatoes, by the aid of some science and "some" fertilizer. He produced one great cabbage that weighed ever so many pounds—six, we believe; it may have been ten or fifteen. Now, that cabbage occupied a plot of ground just two feet square, and since there are 10,890 such plots on an acre, of course his whole crop (one cabbage) was *at the rate of* 10,890 great cabbages per acre. These, at ten cents each, amount to $1,069 for an acre. Is not this perfectly plain reasoning?

But the pear man is ahead. Let us try the potato patch. One hill was dug which measured just six quarts of splendid potatoes. With the hills three feet apart each way, we have 4,840 hills, or 876¼ bushels to the acre, which, at $1 25 per bushel, is *at the rate of* $1,095 31¼ per acre. And as there were eight acres in the field, the crop was, of course, 7,010 bushels, or $8,762 50!—all produced by a few hundred pounds of a special fertilizer. But from eight acres the pear man would have realized $34,848. So he is still clearly ahead.

If any persons wish for more specimens of great crops, *at the rate* of so much per acre, or per hundred acres, let them run over the Patent Office Reports—Agricultural Division—and the "Transactions" of sundry Agricultural Societies for a few years past.

If not satisfied with the examples there found, we can, perhaps, point them to some agricultural papers, or to the writings of a single individual, which will, we trust, satisfy their utmost desires.

But seriously, the yield of pears referred to above, which we have simply taken as a text for some allusions to a current species of humbug in crop estimates, was not an incredible nor an uncommon yield. Hundreds of other pear trees have given as profitable crops, and tens of thousands more will be required before our markets will be amply supplied with this delicious fruit. It costs comparatively little to raise a few trees, and, as soon as grown, they are most productive mints for coining gold, with little further outlay. Neither Mr. N. nor any other sensible person expects to cultivate a hundred such trees upon an acre; but enough of fair bearing paying trees can be raised to induce many persons to enter more extensively into pear cultivation.

EXPERIMENTS IN RAISING SPRING WHEAT.

Mr. J. V. M. Wyckoff, of Middlebush, N. J., last spring sowed one acre with one and a-half bushels of Golden Drop spring wheat, upon a red shale soil. A corn crop, manured in the hill with ashes and hen manure, was removed the previous season. The ground was plowed in the latter part of March, and the first week in April 300 pounds of Peruvian guano per acre was applied and harrowed in. The wheat was then sown broadcast and plowed in with a corn plow three to four inches deep, and followed with a light harrow.

The crop came up well, and grew very rapidly until early in June, when it was attacked by the Hessian fly, turned quite yellow, and remained so for nearly two weeks. It then recovered, assumed its green color, grew luxuriantly, bloomed out well, and bid fair to give a great yield. But it had been put back so much at first by the Hessian fly, that it was now attacked by the clear-winged fly (or midge—see vol. xiv, p. 369), and the full plump heads were so much injured that the ultimate yield was only seven bushels per acre.

This experiment was interesting as showing the good effects of the method pursued. The crop was so vigorous that it withstood and recovered from the attack of the first brood of insects, and even produced something of a crop after a second attack.

Ice Houses.—There are few farms, of any size, but which will afford facilities for gathering a crop of ice during the winter; or, perhaps more properly speaking, where the occupants of which can not obtain in the vicinity sufficient to fill a good sized ice-house. There are also few structures about a farm, that will prove more valuable to a farmer, as a matter of interest, and to his family as a matter of luxury, than an abundance of ice in the warm season. A house will cost, when its real value is considered, a very trifling amount, as it can be constructed mostly by the labor connected with the farm, with the help of a carpenter; and the filling of it is done at a season when the duties of the farm are light. All ice-houses, and especially small ones, are better constructed under ground. There should be a wooden frame-work, with double boarding all round, and with a space of some six or eight inches between, filled with tan, or cut straw well packed in; there should also be a double roof, admitting the free circulation of air between them, as well as a double door. Clean straw should be put in the bottom and along the sides, when filling with ice. The ice would keep much better if sawed in blocks of one size and packed as bricks are piled. None but pure, solid ice should be taken, if it can be obtained; and the lower the temperature is when cut, the longer the ice will keep. Even as a family comfort, no farmer should be without an ice-house, and once having it, he would find it indispensable.

For the American Agriculturist.

TRIAL OF VARIOUS SEEDS.

Having received from different sources several kinds of seeds for experiment, I will state the result:

Stowell's Evergreen Sweet Corn.—This I find to be a rapid grower; remarkable for its productiveness, two or three stalks springing from a single grain, and each of these has two ears and sometimes more. (It is said that it can be kept green a great while by tying the husks together at the little end.) The grain is thin, and the ear is about six inches long.

Imperial Watermelon.—I received seeds of this from Rev. Wm. Clift, of the Agriculturist. It is a viny plant, frequently covering a piece of ground fifteen feet in diameter, and bearing four or five melons from one seed. It has a very thin white shell of a quarter of an inch in thickness, full of seeds, light red flesh, and agreeable to the taste.

Lady Bean—Is of a small size, very productive, pods three inches long, containing from six to ten beans a quarter of an inch in length.

Hemp.—Why do not the farmers of New-Jersey raise hemp. From a small trial I had with it I should think it a profitable crop. I sowed a pint of seed, and raised six quarts of seed and 50 pounds of stalks.

Chiccory.—Will some one inform me if it is a bad weed—hard to eradicate when once started?

With this you will receive some of the seeds described above, which I hope you will try and give your readers the result. I would be happy to send some seeds to those wanting to try them, if they will send a couple of stamps to pre-pay the postage.—**John Fleming**, Readington, N. J.

To Make Hard Water Soft.—Water is frequently hard from holding in solution a quantity of carbonate of lime. It may be rendered soft by the addition of a little quick lime. The *rationale* of the process is this: Carbonate of lime is insoluble in pure water containing carbonic acid. Any water, therefore, that contains carbonate of lime in solution contains free carbonic acid. When quick lime is added, this free carbonic acid unites with it, forming the insoluble carbonate of lime; which, together with the carbonate of lime originally in the water, falls to the bottom of the vessel, and the supernatant water is soft.

Bird's Nest Pie.—Take a deep baking tin, and set as many apples in it as will cover the bottom. Pare them and remove the core from one end; make a custard and fill each apple, as it is placed in the dish. Then make a thick flour batter, pour over the whole and bake one hour. Serve with sour sauce.

It is sufficient that every one in this life should do that well which belongs to his calling.

For the American Agriculturist.

WILL BOOK-FARMING PAY?

Within the last few years agricultural books and papers have increased with surprising rapidity. That they are read can not be questioned, for if they were not they would not be purchased. It is thought by a few who read, and more who do not, that their teachings tend to no good results. Many suppose that to plow, and sow, and reap, as their fathers did, is the acme of agricultural skill, that science, discrimination and liberal culture, have nothing to do with an abundant and remunerative harvest; that full granaries are the blessings of Providence, independent of the husbandman's skill.

Napoleon believed himself to be a man of destiny, that success was his because decreed by fortune or fate; yet he neglected no means for the accomplishment of his purposes which human ingenuity could devise or skill execute. "The Lord helps those who help themselves," has become an established maxim. It is true, the sun shines and the rain of heaven descends alike upon the fields of the thriftless and the thrifty farmer; yet he who with judgment puts the accumulating store-house of agricultural literature into full requisition in his every-day labors, will have the least reason to repine at unproductive seasons, and the greatest cause for thanking a bountiful Providence.

The object of agricultural books and papers, is to develop the bearings of science upon farm interests, and to accumulate the successful experiments and experience of the most enlightened, and bring such intelligence to the understanding and practical comprehension of those who read. The object is not to advocate utopian schemes or impracticabilities, but to expose error and advocate progress in all the departments of agricultural knowledge. It is true that prudence and common sense must guide both our knowledge and our industry, for facts are not of universal application, and judgment is ever requisite to make science tributary to the advancement of the practical avocations of life.

The lawyer would make a sorry appearance before a court of justice, ignorant of the literature of his profession; that physician would have no reason to boast of his success, who had not spent long years in study, and who did not, by journals and reviews, keep posted in the advancement of his profession; that farmer who does every thing by chance, and nothing in accordance with an enlightened system, will doubtless succeed but little better than ignorant practitioners in either of those professions. Science appertains to agriculture as much, and perhaps more, than to most other branches of business. It is expected that the lawyer, the doctor, the mechanic, the engineer, &c., should understand his business, and is there any good reason why the farmer should not do the same? In all nations, and in all times, that nation that has paid the most attention to agriculture, has prospered most; in fact agricultural interests stand at the foundation of human happiness, progress, and prosperity. Every thing connected with "seed time and harvest," is rich in interest to mankind—is the response of Divinity to human exertions. He who makes two blades of grass, or heads of wheat, or ears of corn grow where there is now but one produced, is a public benefactor, and does more than can be done in any other way to banish starvation and misery from the earth. In view of these facts, it is not probable that the multiplication of agricultural books and papers and the dissemination of intelligence upon farm subjects, will lessen the profitableness of labor.

The man whose mind is the most meagerly supplied with agricultural knowledge, is the most ready to decry the utility of the same. The man who reads least, is he who inveighs most against book farming, or the practicability of knowledge in general to the cultivator of the soil.

Will book farming pay? is a question which involves just this: is intelligence not a detriment to the farmer? Is not knowledge at a discount and ignorance a source of profit to him who cultivates the soil? Many profess to believe that practice is everything and science nothing. Science, it is true, will not alone produce wheat, or corn, or oats, or potatoes, but there is not an acre of land that the practical hand may not make produce *more*, when guided by a scientific head. It requires intelligence, and thought, and judgment, to dig golden treasures from the earth, without exhausting the mine. The practical farmer requires the aid of science, to adapt manure to soils, and soils to the growth of crops he designs to cultivate. Many a man has grown poor and his farm poorer, while engaged in *practical* agriculture—has been compelled to sell and change his business or his location, while a new occupant has enriched his land and, at the the same time, his purse, by so combining practical and scientific agriculture, that they shall go hand in hand in accomplishment of the objects for which he labors.

Many a man has said, "Away with your book farming—your scientific agriculture; give me the practical cultivator." No one holds practical farming in higher respect than I do; but that word *practical* has done much mischief in the world. No man becomes a good practitioner at any thing by intuition. The best practical lawyer is he who—all else the same—is the best acquainted with the literature of his profession. The same is the case in medicine, and we have no doubt but that the principle holds good in agriculture.

Agricultural science is the result of no one man's labor, but that of generations of men, whose aim and ambition it should be to advance it, and to set still further forward, in the regions of unprofitable ignorance, the outposts of agricultural knowledge.

O. C. GIBBS, M. D.

Perry, Lake Co., Ohio.

The wisest men have their follies, the best their failings, and the most temperate have now and then their excesses.

IS RED CLOVER INJURIOUS TO HORSES.

Many farmers are strongly prejudiced against clover hay, especially for horses, supposing, when fed to them for any length of time, it produces cough and tends to heaves. Perhaps if more care was used in cutting the clover for hay at the proper time, and in curing it for the barn in the right way, much of this prejudice would be done away with.

For many years I have kept my horses almost exclusively on clover hay through our long winters, and if the clover was cut when about one half the blossoms had turned brown, and the hay mostly made in the cock, in good weather, so as to retain most of the leaves and heads, and green appearance, I have never known it to produce either cough or heaves. But I prefer it to any other kind of hay I cut on my farm for horses. Perhaps if a horse was kept steadily at hard work, some other kind of hay might be preferable.

I suppose the prejudice alluded to among a portion of our farmers, and others, is co-extensive with our country—or, at least, as far and wide as horses are kept and stabled. For in August, 1852, Mr. Ewbank, then Commissioner of Patents, issued printed circulars to almost every section of the Union, propounding a series of questions on rural affairs. One of those questions was, "Does your experience show that red clover is injurious to horses?" By referring to the answers to the above querry in the Patent Office Report, for 1852-3, I find some twenty-five or more responses, from many of the different States, most of which I will copy:

Alabama.—I. W. says, "I do not think that red clover is in any way injurious to horses."

Greenville, S. C.—H. M. E., has grown clover in South Carolina for twenty years; says clover should be cut when free from external moisture, cured mostly in the cock. If too old, or wet when cut, stock are not fond of it; but the great avidity with which they devour it when properly cured, fully compensates for all the care necessary to be taken; and therefore we must always keep it sweet, for when sour it will salivate a horse or mule severely. And this is one reason that persons have supposed that it was injurious to horses. And one other way it will injure horses, as will any other hay or corn-blades, viz: when it heats in curing, by being bulked too soon, it gets moldy and dusty, and if fed to a horse in this state, it will produce a cough, and finally bellows, tisic, [or the heaves, as we Yankees call it,] but in no other way does it injure any stock.

Virginia, Preston Co.—G. W. L. says, "I do not think that red clover is in any way injurious to horses, provided it is good."

Virginia, Fauquier Co.—J. L. B. says: "Green clover is a preferable grass for raising colts, but not good for work-horses, as they can not endure heat and fatigue when feeding on red clover."

Dixmont, Me.—W. U. Jr., says: "My experience does not show that red clover is injurious to horses; on the contrary it is considered a favorite feed for them."

Bloomfield, Me.—E. W. says, "Red clover is not materially injurious to horses, providing they have it all sweet. The great danger lies in the leaves of early summer. They die as the clover shades them, and become dust, which the horse inhales, sadly to his cost and value."

West Rupert, Vt.—I. P. says: "He has no experience to show that red clover is detrimental to horses."

Newport Co., R. I.—D. F. "does not think red clover injurious to horses."

Hillsboro' Co., N. H.—A. G. C. says: "Clover, to be free from danger to working horses or oxen, ought to be cut and wet with cold water."

Crafton Co., N. H.—H. M. says: "I have no doubt but clover will give horses the heaves, by over feeding when they are not at work."

Columbia, Conn.—J. L. Y. says: "Clover is thought to be injurious to horses, by most people, tending to an irritation which results in heaves. Others contend that if the clover is cured in a proper manner, it will not produce cough or irritation in horses, sooner than any other kind of hay; and this opinion seems to be gaining ground, and people are more particular about curing it."

Salem Co., N. J.—D. P.—"Experience does not show that red clover is injurious to horses when fed in moderate quantities."

Another, T, S., from the same State and county, "thinks it is not safe to feed red clover, unmixed, to horses."

Seneca Co., N. Y.—"Timothy hay is preferred for horses; it is thought that clover inclines them to cough and heaves."

Chatauque Co., N. Y.—L. R. says: "Having for the past twenty years had in constant employ from 20 to 30 horses, I have been led by experience to believe that red clover hay, fed to horses in the usual manner, is injurious, and many times creates a cough and heaves. It may be fed in small quantities when *wet* or soaked in *water*, without injury. It undoubtedly makes much difference in the manner clover hay is made, as it never should be spread, and remain so until thoroughly dried, but wilted and cured in the cock; and when put into the mow, a little salt applied will tend to keep it in a state in which the dust will adhere to it, and not rise when fed, which I think is the great cause of injury."

Ontario Co., N. Y.—G. W. says: "Have no reason to think that clover that is cut at the proper season, and well cured before housing, is at all injurious to any animal."

Big Flat, N. Y.—I. H. says: "My experience does not show that clover is injurious to horses; but, on the contrary, good for pasture, and if properly got and cured, also for hay."

Westmoreland Co., Pa.—F. I. C. says: "Cure clover in the cock, and find it the very best hay for our stock. If properly managed, I consider it superior fodder for horses. The prejudice against its use for horses arises entirely, I am persuaded, from improper treatment in curing. If suffered to parch in the sun, as is the common practice, the leaves crumble into powder that the beast inhales, which produces a cough, and ultimately the heaves. My horses, eleven in number, are fed exclusively upon it, with a small allowance of corn or oats when at work. They are always in good condition, and are able to draw heavy logs to the saw-mill, at which they are generally employed during the fall and winter. Upon every tun of hay, as it is housed, I scatter a peck of salt."

Warren Co., Pa.—F. F. says: Red clover, well cured, will never prove injurious to any horse or other animal."

Chester Co., Penn.—N. L. says: "Red clover hay is injurious to horses that have not sound wind, and some think that very dusty hay will produce heaves. But if clover hay is properly cured, and 'got in' without rain, it will keep horses in better condition than any other hay."

Lucerne Co., Pa.—H. F. M. "Red clover hay is not injurious to horses."

Mark Co., Ohio.—M. R. "Red clover is not injurious to horses."

Rush Co., Ind.—J. M. says: "I have not found good clover hay injurious to horses."

Bedford Co., Tenn.—W. B. says: "I do not know that red clover is injurious to horses."

Iowa.—D. M. C. says: "We have never known red clover to injure horses."

From the foregoing extracts, as might have been expected, it will be seen that men differ much in their opinions in regard to the good or bad qualities of red clover hay, as food for horses; but it will also be seen that a large majority of the responses to Mr. Ewbank's *question*, are strongly in favor of clover hay as dry forage for horses, if cut at the right time and properly cured and housed.

I think most farmers would find it for their interest to sow clover-seed liberally with their other grass-seeds—to sow it also for the purpose of plowing in—green manuring with oats, or barley, or other spring grain, even if the stubble is to be plowed in in the fall. To sow clover-seed liberally, the farmer should raise his own seed. The second crop usually produces the best seed; 'tis not necessary that the clear seed should be sown—it will vegetate just as well when sown in the chaff. Farmers, try it.—L. B., in Farmer and Visitor.

Watermelon Molasses.—An article has been going the rounds of the papers about the practicability of making molasses from watermelons. We felt incredulous on the subject, but have recently been presented with a bottle of it by our friend Philip A. Mason, of Woodbury, New-Jersey, who is well known in this market as a successful grower of the mountain sweet watermelon. It was really a nice article, clear, sweet, and of a very pleasant flavor. He informed us the only process was to boil down the pulp to about one-half. The boiling was continued for several hours. Whether it will pay to manufacture molasses in this way is another question, and a matter of very great doubt.—Pennsylvania Farmer.

That which is known to three persons is no secret.

For the American Agriculturist.

LET YOUR SEED CORN SUIT YOUR CLIMATE.

In your last month's number of the Agriculturist, you say that the Hon. E. Everett exhibited an ear of corn containing 720 kernels, and that you have an ear from Virginia containing 863 kernels.

Last October, I underdrained, subsoiled and manured with muck and stable-compost, three acres of worn-out clay soil that had been in grass, but now yielded nothing worth cutting. This spring, I harrowed, cross-plowed and planted it in corn, about 3½ feet apart, 4 grains in each hill, throwing a handful of hen manure and ashes in every hill, having previously soaked the corn in brine, and dusted it with plaster. It came up well. I plowed and hoed it only once; but it matured late—indeed some of my neighbors said I should not make one-third of a crop, because it was a kind of corn unsuited to this climate. I procured the seed from Mr. Allen, but without indicating what kind I wanted. The error was mine, not his. Had I planted the usual corn of the country, I am satisfied from the results of this, that I should have had a very large crop. As it is, it has not turned out a good crop of hard corn, nearly one half being pig-corn. The stalks were very large and very tall, some measuring 15 feet high, and averaging 13 feet. It varies from 8 to 10 rows in the ears, averaging 12, and I have some ears containing 880 grains—many from 600 to 700. You have thus my first year's experience in corn-raising. With the suitable seed for this climate and the same treatment, I am satisfied that I can raise large crops.

A. Goldsmith.

Ninety miles up the North River.

ELOQUENT EXTRACT.

We quote the following extract from an address delivered by Hon. J. W. Miller, before the New-Jersey Agricultural Society, at Camden:

The epochs through which our globe has passed have been characterized by the names of various metals. There has been the golden age, the silver age, and the iron age. The era in which we live might be called with propriety the quick silver age; for everything seems to be on the move. Each individual particle quivers in trembling haste to run upon its neighbor, and thus form a massive body, which when once formed, rolls into some crooked direction which neither mathematics could calculate, nor wisdom foretell. Politics, religion, manufactures, navigation, every art, seems pregnant with revolution and heaving into new birth. Even Agriculture the oldest and most universal of human pursuits seems inspired by the genius of innovation. Let not, therefore, the old farmer, surrounded by his broad acres, suppose that he can entrench himself behind the natural advantages of soil and location, and defy the inroads of modern improvement; for before he is aware, some invention of art or discovery in science, may deprive him of his natural superiority. Let him remember that in these days of marvelous invention soils may be manufactured, and lands transmuted; that under the influence of new fertilizing agents, and an improved mode of cultivation, neglected sand plains and barren hills are brought into successful competition with the richest alluvial lands; and wheat and corn, vegetables and fruits are made to flourish, where neither grass nor grain ever grew before.

IMPORTANT FIGURES.

According to the census for 1850, there are 118,457,622 acres of improved land, and 184,621,248 acres of unimproved land in the farms of the United States. The statement under the head of improved lands is meant only to designate such land as produce crops, or in some manner adds to the productions of the farm. By unimproved lands we are to understand those connected with, or belonging to those farms from which productions are returned. The aggregate cash value of farms is estimated at $3,270,733,093, and the value of agricultural implements at $151,569,675. These figures show the vast preponderance of the Agricultural interests of the country over all others.

But we can go further. The estimated value of the live stock of the country, by the same census, is $543,969,420. While the products of agriculture amount to more than one thousand six hundred millions of dollars. The heaviest crop grown is Indian corn. The amount raised of this article in 1850, exceeded five hundred millions of bushels; more than three hundred millions of pounds of butter were made that year, and upwards of one hundred millions pounds of cheese. The product of wheat is stated at one hundred millions bushels, and of oats one hundred and forty-six millions. Cotton yielded 987,449,600 pounds that year, and potatoes about one hundred millions bushels. There were two hundred millions pounds of tobacco raised, and about fourteen millions tuns of hay. Thirty-four millions pounds of maple sugar were made, nearly two hundred and fifty millions pounds of cane sugar, and thirteen millions gallons of molasses. The value of home made manufactures was $27,481,399, and of slaughtered animals $109,485,757.

What an enormous and overwhelming interest the agriculture of this mighty country represent! And yet we venture the assertion, that notwithstanding all the light which has been thrown upon the practice of husbandry, all the labors of enlightened men of science, there is no subject that is so imperfectly understood, none about which so little pains are taken to inform ourselves concerning it.—Tit for Tat.

To Shake off Trouble.—Set about doing good for somebody; put on your hat and visit the poor; inquire into their wants, and administer unto them; seek out the desolate and oppressed, and tell them of the consolations of religion. When you see a person who in any way needs your help or encouragement freely offer it to him. I have tried this and found it to be the best medicine for heavy heart.

EXPERIMENTS IN FATTENING CATTLE.

John Sears, President of the Medina Co. Agricultural Society, has a good deal of experience in feeding cattle. He writes us from Litchfield, December 9th, as follows:

"I found in attending our State Agricultural Convention, at Columbus, this week, there was a general inquiry among farmers and feeders of cattle, to learn the best and cheapest mode of feeding. In 1853, I half fed sixty head of two and three year old Durham steers. The average weight on the first of December, when I commenced feeding, was 1,050 lbs. I fed them hay and corn in the ear without husking. The average amount fed to each steer daily was one half bushel of corn, and fifteen pounds of hay. The corn was fed in the morning, and the hay at noon. They were turned to grass on the 15th of April, and were sold the 15th of June, when the average weight was 1,300 pounds.

I also fed in 1854, the same number of steers, and of the same grade. The average weight at the time I commenced feeding was 1,025 lbs. I began feeding them in the stable the 20th of November. The manner of fastening them was with a rope, tying the master steer first, and so on until the stable was full. I fed 3½ quarts of corn meal to each steer in the morning, then turned them out to water which was in the yard, for an hour. After tying them up again, I fed *ten* pounds of hay to each, and the same amount again at night. They were turned out to grass on the 15th of April, and sold on the 15th of June, when their average weight was 1,400 lbs. My opinion is that cattle that have been nicely stabled through the winter, will take on flesh much faster when turned to grass than those that have been fed out of doors."—Ohio Farmer.

ERRORS IN COMPOSTING MANURE.

The farmer's manure heap is usually the receptacle for every substance that has served its original purpose; but it is a mistaken idea that everything thrown in there will serve a useful purpose. We may however, just say here that this error has considerably influenced farm practice. Belief in the alchemy rather than the chemistry of the farm yard, has led persons to cart soil into the manure yard and carry it back again with dung to the very field from whence it was taken; adding materially to the bulk and expense of manuring. They presumed that they added to its value. But the effect upon the farm yard manure would be merely to retard decomposition and thus might be a loss or a gain according to circumstaces of soil and crop.

Animal substances, offal, and fish of every description are also unprofitable when applied to farm-yard manure. The natural tendency of animal substances to enter into the putrefactive fermentation is well known to be greater than that of vegetable substances. By placing them in the manure heap, we in a further degree facilitate the quality in which they naturally excel, one of the tendencies of which is to rob them of their most valuable elements, nitrogen. Judicious practice should avoid this error, by adopting, if possible, a system having an opposite effect.

Lime is one of the substances which it is also an error to use with compost in which we have farm-yard manure. It is equally an error to mix lime with any compound rich in ammonia. The tendency of lime in all composts, is to promote decomposition and to waste nitrogen, which escapes, by union with hydrogen, under the form of ammonia, which is the very treasure of the dung heap, and of most other manuring substances.

CURB ON CHECK REINS ON HORSES.

There is no abuse of this valuable animal so wanton and utterly useless as that of leaving the check rein *taught*, when standing. It is perfect torture to them, and we never permit ourselves—and we use horses constantly—to practice so cruel a habit.

An article in the Ohio Cultivator, written by the worthy and humane Editor, is so much to the point on this flagrant abuse, that we present it at once to our readers; and we will further say, that every newspaper and other periodical in the country, should print it for the sake of humanity, if nothing more:

"We have a serious intention of erecting ourselves into a permanent institution for the relief of distressed animals. In a late number we glanced briefly at the unhorsemanlike practice of sitting upon horseback while the horse was at rest. We come now to a more prevalent evil practice, in the abuse of the curb and check rein. In the Cultivator for 1854, p. 291, is an article on this subject from an English paper, which ought to be repeated, or something like it, every year.

"As we go upon our daily beat from the cottage on 3d-st. to the Cultivator office, our sense of *horsemanity* is almost daily outraged by what we see at the rails and posts along the curb-stone. Country people come in with their generally well kept horses, and hitch them up while they do their shopping or other errands, which sometimes takes half a day or more. Now these people have not the slightest intention to abuse their horses; on the contrary, many of them would fight for their steeds as soon as they would for their wives or children; but this is the way they do it: Most of those who come on horseback ride a Spanish saddle with high pomel, and with a short bridle rein. They dismount, and to keep the bridle rein from getting over the horse's head, they hitch it back over the pomel, by which it is drawn tight, and the horse's head slightly curbed. If the horse was in motion, this slight curb would cause very little uneasiness, but while all the muscles are at rest, this tension soon becomes exceedingly painful, especially as many of these country horses are not at any other time subjected to the curb. The horse bears it very well for a little while, but soon begins to step out and champ the bit, and if it had the gift once vouchsafed to Balaam's ass, would reprove its owner with all the modern improvements of the language. But as the poor brute has no such faculty, and as the rider is the ass in this case, it must grin and bear it; unless, indeed, the Editor of the Cultivator happens along, and quietly putting a finger under the rein fillips it off the horn, and goes on as innocently as if nothing had happened, while the relieved animal holds out his grateful nose and says, "thank you, old fellow!" in a kind of horse latin, that is perfectly intelligible to the editor aforesaid.

"One day last fall we were sitting in the store door of our friend Nelson, of Urbana; it was the day of the County Fair, and as Nelson's store is right fornenst the public square, the rural equestrians came in and soon filled the rails with their saddle nags. The riders as usual hitched up the bridle rein over the horn of the saddle, and went to see the sights. We noticed one colt, a spirited iron grey, trussed up in this way, which soon began to show signs of intense torture. Our finger began to itch to get hold of that curb; the colt writhed at the rail, and we hitched about as uneasily on our seat, and finally as we were about going to the rescue, after saying to Nelson that a man deserved to be —— who would truss up a horse in that way, the gray luckily slipped the rein off the pomel, and out went his nose, the gladdest colt on that public square; and we were about to take off our hat and give three cheers, when we bethought it might compromise the dignity of the Cultivator, so we only clapped our hands and gave the cheers inwardly.

"But this is only one phase in the abuse of the check rein. Farmers are not the only sinners in this respect; in fact, they are least guilty, and it is because their horses are so seldom subjected to check, that they suffer most intensely when it is imposed. Our town and city folks have most to answer for. Here we see even the cart-boys, with a tun of sand in their cart, and the poor horse—which is generally a cast-off omnibus or livery horse—checked up most unmercifully, because the ragged driver takes as much pride in having his team *look well*, as his more aristocratic predecessor; and at every jar of the cart, or misstep of the poor damaged brute that hauls it, the latter gets the full benefit of the jolt upon his jaws, which are by this time providentially pretty well hardened.

"The evil begins much further back. The colt in the barn-yard, that has never known restraint until now he is some three years old, is roughly caught and a bit forced in his mouth, a crupper put over his tail, and a belt around his body, and then his nose drawn in half way to his breast, when he is left to suffer and sulk, sometimes for half a day. When this editor was a lad he was guilty of just such enormities, but these are among the original sins of which he has most heartily repented. In breaking a colt to bit, the rein should never be drawn so as to cause positive pain in the muscles of the neck; for besides the inhumanity and uselessness of such a course, the horses' mouth is irretrievably damaged by it for all future use; a good mouth is indispensable for a good saddle horse.

"When the horse goes into harness, again comes the abominable curb, to make him hold up his head. As before remarked, in a little horse, with all his muscles in action, a moderate curb is not very painful, and is often useful after long habit, in steadying his carriage; it is like every other bad habit in this respect. But to hitch up the team to a post, leaving the curbs tightly drawn, is an unmitigated abuse. Every day we see fine carriage teams standing in that way, left by the hour. The noble beast first puts out his fore feet, then gathers again, turns his neck quite to one side, then to the other side, to relieve the aching muscles, and all because the thoughtless driver had neglected to take the check reins out of the hooks, or for fear his team would get their heads down. On Sundays our devotions are often very much disturbed by such sights. Fine carriage teams are trussed up for two hours at the church door, sometimes hot and in fly time; they can only twitch their skin and wag a stump of a tail; sometimes in winter, with the keen wind singing in their ears, and their forefeet in the frozen slush of the gutter. In such cases, if it were not Sunday, and if it were not for disturbing better worshippers, we would like to throw a torpedo into the pew of the owner, who ought to be made to sit astride of a sharp rail without any cushion on it, all the time his team was hitched up that way."

A FEW MORE FACTS ABOUT GUANO.

As it is often asked whether guano is a profitable fertilizer for common farming, we think there is no better way of knowing than by carefully noting experiments, and for this purpose we have been somewhat particular.

We last spring purchased some four bags and experimented on different articles of products with the following results. On one half acre of potatoes, we applied seven dollars worth, by dropping a small handful to a hill and then passing along before dropping the seed, with a small iron tooth rake, and mixed the guano with the soil in the bottom of the furrow.

On this half acre we had 70 bushels of good round red potatoes, and but for the rust that struck the tops in August, as were other fields in the neighborhood, we think the crop would have been much larger, but this far exceeded an adjoining piece manured at the same expense with other fertilizers.

In the same field and adjoining this, we had a piece of winter rye, sowed in September, 1854, after taking off a heavy crop of corn fodder, and sowing guano broadcast at the rate of $10 per acre; yielding at the rate of 16 bushels of good rye; a portion of the field that did not winter kill producing at least 25 bushels per acre. These experiments were on land worn out by continual cropping for the last 16 years without manure.

On another piece of the same field we planted a few rows of the white flat corn, in drills about two feet apart, and seeded at the rate of one quart to ten rods in length of rows, and guano at $10 per acre, which yielded an amount of fodder almost incredible.

Wishing to know the benefits of guano on grass land, for top dressing, we accordingly selected a piece in the middle of a field, and after measuring and staking out one eight of an acre, we divided it into two equal parts, and on No. 1, just the sixteenth of an acre, we applied 12 lbs. of the lumpy portions of guano after the fine had been sifted from it, by dissolving it in some five or six pails of water, and applying to land by the use of a common watering pot. This was done early in the spring before the starting of the grass. Soon the grass on No. 1 gave signs of something more stimulating than that of No. 2. These two lots remained until the time of cutting, when each piece was carefully mowed, dried and raked seperately, and after standing some three or four days in the cock, again spread and dried sufficiently for the mow, they were taken to the barn and weighed. No. 1 weighing 126 lbs., No. 2, 42 lbs. Thus it will be seen that the portion to which the guano was applied, contained just three times the amount of hay of that to which none was put, or in other words 12 lbs. of guano produced 84 lbs. of dried hay, making at this ratio, one tun of guano produce seven tuns of hay.

But the question is often asked, is guano good for anything more than one year? To this our answer is by experience.

In 1854 we planted a piece of potatoes on field land with ten dollars worth of guano to the acre, and had a fair crop; the last spring this sown to oats without more manuring, and yielded 30 bushels to the acre, the straw of which was worth for fodder twice the amount of the last crop of hay cut on the land.—T. G. H.—Granite Farmer.

Coal Ashes.—If farmers who reside in the coal regions have not tried the benefit of coal ashes on their cherry trees, the sooner they do so the better. I recollect well, when a boy, of carrying the coal ashes from the grate and piling them around a little cherry tree, which was known by all the family, as the "little orphan," on account of its sprouting from the roots of an old tree which died, and the peculiar hard time it had in endeavoring to reach the stature of even a bush. The summer after the coal ashes were deposited around its base, it put forth vigorously, and in three years was quite a thrifty tree, heavily laden with luscious fruit. My father seeing the good results of the ashes, a wagon load was thrown around the base of each tree on the farm, and the effect was astonishing. Old trees that were fast decaying were resusticated, and sent forth new branches, and bore fruit abundantly. Let those who have coal ashes test its virtues upon fruit trees.—Ex.

A gentleman told a good story the other evening, in his lecture, of what a New-Hampshire farmer said of his neighbor, Frank Pierce. The farmer was interrogated concerning the President and what was thought of him at home. "Oh," said the farmer, "he is a good fellow up here, but come to spread him all over the country he is dreadful thin."

CARROTS FOR HORSES.

A clerical friend of ours who is more skilled in sermons than horse flesh, very gravely informed us, that he did not think much of carrots as a food for horses. He had been feeding his with this root, and the result was that he was running down. He gave him more value in carrots and oats than when he fed on oats and hay, and yet he did not do as well. On catechising the dominie a little, we found that he had withheld hay altogether, giving no bulky food whatever with the carrots. Of course the animal grew poor. The food of a gramenivorous animal must have bulk as well as nourishment.

This we presume is a fair sample of those experiments which result in the condemnation of carrots. The testimony of careful observers goes far to show, that they are nearly as valuable as oats, bulk for bulk, when fed with them, after two years trial, and shall enlarge their cultivation next season.

The American Herd Book.—The favor with which the second volume of this valuable work has been received by our American cattle breeders has induced them to call for the preparation of a third volume at the hands of its editor. We have received a full and particular circular, addressed to the Shorthorn breeders, requesting them to prepare their pedigrees for compilation, and send them in by the first of December, 1856, that the volume may be ready for delivery by the first of May, 1857. Such breeders of Shorthorns as may not have received a circular may obtain them by addressing Lewis F. Allen, Black Rock, Erie Co., N. Y.

Take a Look at the Advertisements.—Our business columns are quite full of agricultural *information*. It is understood, of course, that we insert these advertisements not only because they give just such information as our readers want, but also because the advertisers pay for their insertion. We assume no responsibility for what each one says of his own wares offered for sale, and since we charge all alike in proportion to the space occupied, though it would give us pleasure to respond to the wishes of those requesting, and probably deserving special attention, we feel bound to content ourselves with this general notice. The advertisements are arranged without any reference to order of reception or supposed merit, but just as the printer finds it most convenient to make up the columns. Let the reader look them all through, and see if there is not a chance to buy or sell something to his own advantage.

The Louisville Courier pays the following tribute to the occupations of a farmer:

"If a young man wants to engage in a business that will insure him, in middle life, the greatest amount of leisure time, there is nothing more certain than farming. If he has an independent turn of mind, let him be a farmer. If he wants to engage in a healthy occupation, let him till the soil. In short, if he would be independent, let him get a spot of earth, keep within his means; be temperate, to avoid the doctor; be honest, that he may have a clear conscience; improve the soil, so as to leave the world better than he found it, and then if he can not live happy and die contented, there is no hope for him.

For the American Agriculturist.

Cancerene.—At the annual meeting of the New-Jersey Agricultural Society, held at Trenton on the 15th ult., resolutions were passed highly commending Jonathan Ingham, Esq., of Salem, for his persevering efforts in making the king-crab available as a fertilizing substance. This manure is known as "Cancerene," and was on exhibition at the State Fair in Camden, N. J. Fertilizers of all sorts are so greatly needed to develop the agricultural resources of our country, especially in the Atlantic States, that he who invents a new one, and succeeds in introducing it, may be reckoned a benefactor.

Mercer.

For the American Agriculturist.

SOME THOUGHTS ON HENS.

RESULTS OF EXPERIENCE.

It is an unquestioned fact that the "Hen Fever" has culminated. The rage for very *large* and very *small* fowls is passed away, and people are now inquiring for such as combine both beauty and utility. The public ought to be thankful that, at least, a part of the people have come to their senses. For never was there any thing, unless it be horse-dealing, which has afforded more and better opportunities for cheating and pocketing funds without rendering any equivalent, than this "Hen Fever." A few unscrupulous persons have enriched themselves at the expense of the many—and the many have learned a useful, though dear bought lesson. Many men from an inherent love for rural pursuits, and many from a desire to benefit others, have also engaged in the "fowl" business. And while a love for rural employment remains, and people have—as the industrious and prudent in this country always have—the means to indulge a well disciplined taste, "biddies" of real merit need have no fear of being neglected. So long, too, as fowls can be kept at so great a pecuniary profit, yankees will be ready in this way to turn "an honest penny."

Early in my "run of fever," I learned that the best way to ascertain the merits of a breed of fowl was to experiment myself, and though I can not boast of a very large experience, I can speak with confidence of a few kinds. Where you can raise chickens and sell them for $3 to $15 per pair, no one doubts that it is *profitable*. But where fancy prices can not be obtained, and fowls and eggs for the market are the only sources of revenue, there has been a variety of opinions as to the profit. My experience and observation leads me to the conclusion, that farmers can produce chickens and eggs at a fair profit. I have doubts whether residents of villages and towns can. I conclude that producing eggs is generally the most profitable—and if this be true the question is "what breed of fowls will give the most eggs on the least keep?" I believe all agree that Asiatic fowls *will* lay well and that they are *hardy*. I object to them because they are such determined setters. The summer past my Brahmas have been so broody, that I have nearly discarded them. In some cases I could not "break them up"—if shut away from the rest, the ground was not too good for them to hover, and if I filled the nest full of water, they set standing, as did the Dutchman's hen. As a general rule, large animals eat more than small ones, and this I think holds true of Asiatic fowls, notwithstanding the opinion to the contrary expressed by many who hold them in high esteem. At present I give the preference to the Black Spanish, as egg producers. They are also a very *handsome* fowl, of medium size, their large, very red combs and white faces making a very pretty contrast to their black feathers. They are hardy and a very good table fowl. They do not incline to set, which is a good quality, if eggs are the sole object. I learn from undoubted authority, that the Bolton Greys are extraordinary layers, but their flesh is inferior. I have known many instances where our native fowls have given large profits. One of my neighbors has during the last eleven months, sold from a flock of a dozen common fowls, 1,151 eggs, amounting to $19.27. Besides this he has raised two broods of chickens. I think this is better than most flocks of Asiatic fowls will do. I shall next season breed Irish Grey Games, and Red Irish Games, and Indian Mountain fowl, and can then give my opinion of these varieties from experience.—C. L. A., West Killingly, Ct.

DRY BROTH.

Dry broth is a very useful and nutritious article. It is very common in Russia, and in other countries amid huge forests where game is scarce and fuel of great price. In traveling in that country, I came to a place where this broth was manufactured, and remained there three days for the purpose of learning the process. It is as follows:

Take half of an ox, half of a sheep, entire ten fowls, ten partridges, and cut all these into small pieces. Place it in a copper boiler well tinned, and pour six quarts of water to one pound of flesh. Cook this in the open air or in a basement over a moderate fire, skim it carefully, and after the soup is well cooked add some vegetables, &c., that is to say, celery, pork, parsley cut fine, and cook the whole ten hours or more, until the soluble portions of the flesh are dissolved. Then strain the liquor through a colander. Place the residue under a press and pour what flows from it into the soup. The residue of the flesh is comparatively tasteless, and may be given to dogs, swine, &c.

The soup which has been strained, is again poured into the boiler, and made to boil moderately. It should be taken from the fire at such time as, when poured off and allowed to cool, it will become a compact mass, resembling chocolate. This moment must be determined by repeated trials. The soup should then be poured into vessels of tin or potter's ware, and suffered to remain several days. The mass is then placed in the sun or in a dry room, until it shall become dry soup.

Dry soup is prepared of different sizes, of one, three, six, or twelve pounds, and is sold by weight.

It should be observed that in its composition there is no salt, nor spice. Salt has a tendency to soften and moisten it, and any spice does not suit all persons alike. Besides, the broth, being administered as soup and dissolved would not be suitable for the sick.

Horticultural Department.

SELECTING A FEW GOOD PLUM TREES AND HOW TO CULTIVATE THEM,

Knowing that Dr. Underhill has been quite successful in growing fine plums, we requested him to state his method of avoiding the curculio, and also to name a few of the varieties which he considered the best for those who could plant but a few trees. The following is his reply:

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist

In compliance with your request, I will make a few statements on the culture of plums, the means of protection from the depredations of the curculio, and the names of a number of trees that would be worthy of selection for table use, and for supplying our markets.

The means resorted to for preventing the attacks of the curculio, which has been very destructive to the plum for a number of years past, are various; many of doubtful efficacy, and some too troublesome to be carried out in practice. Planting the trees in grounds occupied by poultry, or as the feeding places of the swinish race, *so rich in odors offensive to the sense of smell*, proves effectual in most seasons for driving away the curculio-epicure, and thus secure a good crop of fruit.

It occurred to me about ten years ago, that the plum tree might be so planted on the borders of streams, ponds and lakes, that its entire top would hang over the water, that the curculio seeing that its progeny placed in every plum, would fall into the liquid element the moment it dropped from the tree, would be deterred from the selection of so dangerous a locality, and pass to a more secure retreat. On this supposition I surrounded an artificial lake with a choice variety of the best kinds of plums, planting them so that the entire top hung over the water—the fruit being gathered with the assistance of a boat. They have borne finely for a number of years, and have entirely escaped the depredations of the curculio. The fruit also grows more free from all blemish, and is really beautiful.

I have a variety. Among them are the following kinds, which form a choice selection for the table, and will pay well for those who are in favorable localities for supplying the markets. The Lawrence Favorite, Cole's Golden Drop, Jefferson Green Gage, Washington, Smith's Orleans, Flushing Gage, Imperial Gage, Empress, Winter Gage, &c.

Plum trees do not require the grounds to be cultivated around them—indeed they seem to thrive best when the body of the tree is surrounded with a close sod.—R. T. Underhill, M. D., Croton Point Vineyards.

GOOSEBERRIES AND CURRANTS.

These are fruits that every cottager might grow well without much trouble, their cultivation being very simple and easily understood; yet how seldom do we find plantations of them well managed. The gooseberry is propagated by cuttings, which strike root freely, the young wood of the previous year's growth answering best for the purpose. Slip off the young shoots, and carefully pick out, with a sharp knife, all the eyes or buds at the base or under part, so as to get a clean stem, leaving only three or four at the top. They should then be placed in a little nursery, where they should remain until they become well rooted, which will be the case after the first year. By this method of treatment the plants will not be liable to produce suckers hereafter, which are so difficult to be removed when once established, and rob the plant of a great portion of that nourishment which should be preserved for the production of its fruit.

When the young plants are ready for planting, the plot of ground intended for their reception should be well prepared by being deeply trenched, and if some enriching green crop, such as potatoes or cabbages, with which plenty of manure had been used, were planted upon it the previous year, so much the better. Here the young plants, when lifted from the nursery, should be placed in rows, and at six feet apart every way, care being taken not to plant them too deep—a very common error with most persons. Openings should be made sufficiently large to receive them freely, the bottoms perfectly level; and in putting in the little plants their roots should be spread out horizontally on all sides, and by no means allowed to overlap each other. Good rich mold, with a little old manure or compost, should be placed immediately under and over them; then, having gently pressed them with the foot, the remaining portion of earth should be placed about them, and left quite loose at the surface.

The principal care they will require afterwards is pruning, which should be once a year, and at the most convenient time after the leaves fall off. In pruning gooseberries care should be taken to leave the center of the plant tolerably open, so that light and air may have free access to every part of it, and the branches thinned out until those remaining do not touch or cross each other. The old wood should be removed, in order to encourage the growth of the new, on the presence of which the luxuriance of our second year's crop entirely depends, this being one of those plants which produce their fruit principally on the wood of last year's growth. Should any part of the bush become deficient of young wood, stop back the old branches in that part, and plenty of young wood will be thrown out by them the following year.

Nothing can be worse than for cottagers to leave too much wood on their bushes, as thereby they become too much crowded, and the fruit worthless. If abundant crops of fine large fruit be desired, leave little wood, and supply the plants with plenty of both liquid and solid manure. This should be done immediately after pruning, at which time, also, the ground should be dug, and left open and loose about the plants. November is, perhaps, the best time of the year to take cuttings from, and transplant, gooseberries.

All the varieties of the currant are propagated precisely in the same manner as the gooseberry; and as the black variety produces its fruit similar to the gooseberry, on the young wood, its method of pruning is of course the same. The white and red are pruned in quite a different manner, the young wood being cut back every autumn within a few eyes of the old, to cause them to send forth spurs, upon which those plants produce their fruit.—An Artisan, in London Florist.

NEW METHOD OF PERPETUATING THE PLUM.

Nurserymen are generally very unsuccessful in propagating the plum on an extensive scale. The great difficulty consists in the buds refusing to take, with sufficient tenacity, to become a component of the stock. Sometimes in budding plums, a portion of the wood or bark will attach itself permanently to the stock; but this portion in most cases, is not the part which contains the bud. As the season for budding the plum tree is quite short, the only remedy remaining for stock, on which the buds have failed, is to engraft the ensuing spring; but engrafting the plum is an equally unsuccessful operation, hence the difficulty that is experienced in getting a saleable stock of plum trees.

Having devoted special attention to raising plum trees, for the wholesale trade, for the last ten years, it became necessary for me to devise some method that would facilitate the increase of stock. I had often observed that the buds invariably grew better on wood of the current season's formation, than that of the previous year. Taking advantage of this fact, I subsequently sought the new wood, when practicable, in which to insert the buds; the only fault with this method was, that the trees were worked so high on the body of the stock, that in the case of rapid growing kinds, the scion outgrew the bottom, thus making unsightly and rather unsaleable trees.

I have practiced a method with great success for several years, by which I secure the principle of budding in new wood, and at the same time, work the stocks within an inch of the ground.

In the first place, care must be observed to procure none but sound, fresh seed. In the month of November, the ground must be prepared for the reception of the pits. This is performed by plowing a deep trench. (The soil should be a rather stiff loam, which may be afterwards deepened to eighteen inches with a spade. This trench must be partially filled with a compost made from exciting manures, and before using should be thoroughly decayed and frequently turned over in the heap, so as to be well incorporated. On this compost an inch or two of earth may be thrown, after which scatter the seed thinly, but let it compass the entire width of the trench. On the top of the seed, I throw coarse gray sand, such as is used in making mortar. Sand remains perfectly friable, and does not oppose the shooting stem of the young plants, when vegetation takes place in the ensuing spring, and it also prevents for a time the growth of weeds, thereby permitting the seedlings to get the start of foul stuff, which, with a little attention, they will maintain throughout the season. The object of this peculiar cultivation, is to force the seedlings into an average growth of two feet the first summer, and by the first of August, they are all in fine budding condition, still growing rapidly; the bark springs from the knife, and affords ready admission to the bud, which, if carefully inserted will not lose five per cent. I have a field of plum seedlings, budded the past season, which will average two and a half feet in hight, and scarcely a bud exhibits symptoms of decay. The subsequent culture is exceedingly simple. The budded trees are permitted to form their first season's growth in the seed bed. Many of them will attain the altitude of six and seven feet. They are then transplanted into the nursery rows, where they may remain one or two years; all will, by the expiration of that time, be fit for sale. If it were not for adopting this plan, my trees would cost half a dollar each, to grow for market.—I. R., in N. Y. Horticultural Review.

A NEW WASH FOR TREES.

Noticing an allusion to the washing of trees with lye, by Dr. Underwood, in your paper of December 1st, I was reminded of the propriety of again noticing a wash for apple trees which I have used with satisfaction for the past three years. Two years ago, I incidentally spoke of it in this journal, and though out of season now, I venture to again call attention to it, hoping that some one else may test it.

Procure soap-stone dust, at the workers of soap-stone, sift it to get out the stones, if you choose, mix it up to the consistence of paint, with soap-suds, and add a very little slaked lime, and if you wish to give it an agreeable tint, stir in a very little yellow ochre. Apply this mixture with a brush to your young apple trees in the early part of the summer, and it will prevent the growth of moss, will keep the trunks cool, (which lye does not) and will give them a handsome, neat and healthy appearance.

Lye is dangerous, and requires much experience. Lime is too stiff, and closes the pores of the bark. But the soap-stone dust incorporates with the bark, and in the winter season presents a handsome buff color, which can not be rubbed off. There is not the least danger, I think, in the use of this wash, or its incorporation into the bark, a the soap-stone dust is mostly composed of clay, and the lime and ochre found, in some form, in the soil. Besides, my trees are healthy, and this fact is better than theory.

Perhaps this dust mixed with some other substances, would be found beneficial—for instance, with guano, for pear trees.—D. W. L., in N. E. Farmer.

GRAPE VINE ROOTS VS. CUTTINGS.

I notice in the September number of your periodical, extracts from and comments upon a forthcoming work on the grape, called the "Vinedresser's Guide." I observe the author prefers the use of *cuttings* in forming a vineyard, and seems to think scarcely a year is gained by planting well rooted vines in their stead. I may say such is not the experience of the most extensive cultivators of the grape on the Atlantic seaboard. I and others in this vicinity find that not only a greater saving of time than a single year is obtained, when well rooted plants, three or four years old, are used in the formation of a vineyard—but that the vineyard when formed is far more valuable, from its being less subject to injury from rotting or mildew, than those made directly from cuttings. We have noticed the fact, and the theory we have adopted is confirmed by experience. Where cuttings are planted to form the vineyard, the roots usually start too near the surface of the ground, where they are under the influence of heat and moisture. The growth is rapid, increased by every shower in the spring; the sap vessels are large, and when the vineyard is old enough to bear, the month of June presents an abundant foliage and great promise of fruit. The drouth coming on in July, the roots being mostly located near the surface, are deprived of the proper supply of nourishment, and soon the rotting commences, which I am informed is far more serious in Ohio and the States adjacent, where their vineyards are formed directly from cuttings, than in the Atlantic States. The roots also, from their nearness to the surface, are far more liable to injury from the frosts of winter. When you have well rooted plants you can set them at any depth that experience teaches to be the most appropriate to the different kinds of soil, and thus secure a proper growth of roots for the support of the vine. It is more than eight years since most of those who are interested in forming vineyards in this and neighboring States, have abandoned the plan recommended so highly in the " Vinedresser's Guide," and our experience leads us to believe a certain and more abundant crop of excellent fruit can be obtained by the mode which we have adopted. Yours, very truly,

R. T. Underhill, M. D.

Croton Point Vineyards,
Sept. 27, 1855.

Commercial Register.

Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself hath said, I will a family paper take, both for my own and children's sake? If such there be, let him repent, and have the paper to him sent.

VINE CULTURE.

So much has been done and written on the vine since the days of Noah to the present time, that the subject may well seem exhausted; yet in the present exigencies of this useful fruit, the experience of any one who has successfully cultivated it in any new or peculiar manner may not be unwelcome.

I will first state what I have done, then my reasons for so doing.

I have vines planted along each side of a span-roofed vinery, six feet apart; these are trained in main permanent stems from the soil to the ridge; horizontal canes are carried from the main stems every 18 inches; these are six feet each in length, and interlace each other from the neighboring vines. Each vine bears fruit every alternate year only on the horizontal six-feet canes, which are then cut off close to the main stem; the following season this vine makes wood only while its next neighbor bears the crop. In this manner I have the house constantly well cropped with fruit, although each vine only bears a crop every alternate year.

Now for my reasons.

Every one with his eyes open must have observed that fruit trees in general, such as the pear and apple, will bear without exhaustion heavy crops every alternate year, and many of them naturally fall into this habit; while a good crop of superior fruit every year off the same tree is not to be expected. If the pear or apple, why not the vine? In fact, the same thing has been observed of the vine; for a bad crop, if the plant is in a healthy condition, is generally followed by a good one, and *vice versa.*

Moreover, a fruit-bearing spur of the vine, and even the young wood generally of a previously cropped vine, does not ripen so soon or so well as another vine in the same house which has no fruit on it demanding supplies. Now, what has been observed as beneficial for a crop of fruit incidentally, why not render permanent and regular? This I have done with the very best results; and in the vinery to which I have here alluded, there is no flue or heating apparatus, all the heat obtained being from a neighboring vinery, to which this is attached, by opening the door and end sashes between the two. At present the wood of the non-bearing plants is strong and well ripened, while much of that on the fruit-bearing ones is raw and green. Besides the advantages here detailed, it may be observed that this system includes others acknowledged by intelligent growers; these are, long rods and horizontal training.

I intend, in another season, to have permanent rods along the ridge of this house, and to adopt dependant training—that is, from ridge to eaves—instead of the horizontal, as at present.

In another lean-to vinery, I have prepared to carry out the alternate system of cropping by vines planted at the back wall of the house; these, by long canes led down the rafters, I intend to crop alternately with the vines in front, by long canes led up the rafter from them.—M. D., in London Florist.

BEGONIAS.

Very many of the species contained in this genus deserve special attention, from the profusion and successional development of their flowers, and also their graceful and compact habit under good cultivation. They will flower at any season, but the winter months are the most useful, as they are the most serviceable. Few or any of them flower in a greenhouse during that period; all that they can do is barely to support vitality, and that in a very feeble condition. By the return of spring their large succulent leaves are either dead or in a forward state of decay, and it may be that gangrenous manifestation shows itself throughout the entire plant, so that they occupy space that would be more usefully filled with other things.

That such is the case their geographical distribution sufficiently answers the question, being found in India, Brazil, Nepal, and latitudes of a similar character.

This is not the place to enter into an explanation why the constitution of some plants is suited to a warm and others to a compartively cool temperature; the question is purely a physiological one, and has not, that I am aware of, been definitely settled. The subject, however, is worthy of consideration, as it contains much that is useful and interesting to the cultivator. The number and quality of the flowers depend on the size and fully matured habit of the plant; it will be necessary, then, that propagation begin about the first of February, and a monthly insertion of cuttings continued till the beginning of May, which will insure a successional display of flowers to the end of the following spring. Roots are produced freely with or without bottom heat, in a moderately moist atmosphere of about sixty degrees. Such a state is agreeable to the Begonia during all stages of its growth, but any approximation to an excess destroys the roots, and gives the foliage a transparent dropsical appearance.

There is scarcely any class of plants possessing stronger digestive powers; hence they delight to feed on rich materials, unless with very few exceptions. The soil that I usually employ is fresh loam, leaf mold, and thoroughly decomposed manure, to which is added as much sand as will allow the water to pass off freely, for we should certainly bear in mind that mechanical arrangement has more influence over the health of a plant than the manurial ingredients. Those species that possess a loose flexible habit should, so soon as the shoots have made a couple of joints, have their points pinched off, to give the plant a bushy form. Should it be desirable to grow the same plants a second season, cut them to within a few inches of the pot, and slightly reduce the supply of water, to produce repose, which will enable them to push again more vigorously. When the young growths are about two inches long shake away the soil entirely, reduce the length of the roots, and place them in pots comparatively small for the size of the plant, and subject them again to the same treatment.

As this communication is addressed exclusively to the amateur gardener, I beg to recommend the following species. They are old kinds, it is true, but nevertheless they are good and easily cultivated: Begonia nitida, white; manicata, pale pink; ramentacea, white blush; parvifolia, white; fuchsioides, scarlet; dydrocotylifolia, pink; albococcinea, scarlet and white; incurvata, pink; and spatulata, white.—A., in London Florist.

For the American Agriculturist.

A CHAPTER ON BED-QUILTS.

In visiting the Fair of the American Institute the past year, my attention was particularly attracted by the great number of bed-quilts displayed in one of the galleries. There were several knit of tidy cotton, some close and firm, and others with an open ground, through which a colored lining would make a pretty contrast with the white of the figure.

A silk landscape quilt was suspended from the ceiling, to exhibit to the best advantage. It represented a castle and the surrounding scenery. It was made of pieces less than an inch square, and they were as well arranged as the nature of the materials would permit. It was closely and neatly quilted, yet I could not avoid thinking I should not like to sleep under it. An instructive fear of being crushed by the ponderous weight of those deep stone walls made my shoulders ache in the imagination. I thought of Jack the giant-killer, hidden in one corner of the room, when he feared his two-headed Welsh entertainer would "dash his brains out quite," with a heavy club, if he remained in bed. I looked at the quilt with a feeling somewhat akin to that of "the valiant Cornish man," as he listened to the giant pacing up and down, and muttering,

> "Though you lodge with me this night,
> You shall not see the morning light."

A bouquet of flowers would have been a prettier design for such a work. It should not be placed in a vase, lest when in a horizontal position the water should run out.

There were patched calico quilts of more varieties of pattern than I can remember. Squares, diamonds, hexagons and octagons, each presented their claims for admiration. Most of them were made of very small pieces, which it must have required days to cut, and weeks to sew together.

Then there were quilts with a white ground, on which were sewed most stiff and unnatural looking birds and flowers, made not in the image of anything in the heavens above, or in the earth beneath, or in the waters under the earth, but needed to have "this a blue-bird," "this is a canary," &c., written near them, as I saw it done on one at the Great Exhibition in 1853. Pieces of yellow flannel were sewed on and stuffed to represent oranges, summer squashes, or something of the kind. Various nondescript, bright red animals followed each other in Indian file. On one of these quilts was a card with this notice: "These quilts not bound for want of time. This one for sale for $25." This showed the estimate placed upon it by the exhibitor, while it was really too ugly to be admitted into the house of any cultivated person.

In the days of our grandmothers, patched quilts exhibited a laudable economy. Calico was very expensive. There were no manufactories in the country. Everything not manufactured in their own looms was brought across the water. They could not afford to waste even the small fragments. They were nicely cut and basted for little fingers to sew together at home or at school, for in those days a skillful use of the needle was considered an accomplishment worthy of receiving a teacher's attention. But now we are not required to spend our time in precisely the same way. What may have been true economy fifty or a hundred years ago, may now be very far from it. "Time is money" is an old saying, and it is also something which money can not buy. With the wisest arrangement most women make of their time, there is too little left for mental improvement. There is constant call for the needle either in making or repairing, and few are the hours which may be devoted to the enjoyment of a book. These few should not be intruded upon by patch-work quilts, that never can vie with pure white dimity or simple calico. How many of these twenty-five dollars would buy. How many valuable books it would add to the library.

It can only be a waste of that which is more precious than money to sew together pieces an inch or two square, when for a York shilling a whole yard of pretty furniture calico can be purchased. How many of the quilts exhibited at the Fair of the American Institute were made by farmers' wives or daughters I can not say; that some of the more grotesque were not, "Brooklyn" or "Williamsburg" marked on the ends, made sufficiently evident.

No life is more to be respected than that of a farmer, but to make it so he himself must be intelligent, and so must the ladies of his household. His leisure hours must be passed in the society of valuable newspapers and books, and his wife and children must be admitted to the same domestic circle. It is not possible to imagine that one of these ugly "twenty-five dollar" quilts could have been made by hands accustomed to turning over the leaves of periodicals or books. They indicate no advanced stage of improvement. As the production of a native African or a Northwest Indian, they might be looked upon with some interest, but as the work of American women, they occasion a far different feeling.

An ordinary patched quilt by no means strikes one so offensively. It is only when they are vulgar in design, or indicate an undue amount of time devoted to them, that they are disagreeable. I should, however, quite as soon think of displaying a pair of patched pantaloons as a patched bed-quilt, and I should derive just as much pleasure from examining one as the other. Skillful mending is as well worthy a premium as any other kind of needle-work, and receives far too little attention. **Anna Hope.**

A man of no account—A ready moneyed man.

MILK FOR CHILDREN—A VERY IMPORTANT SUBJECT.

The brief article in our last number, at page 93, alluding to this subject, has called forth a number of inquiries for further information. We can not devote our space to better purpose than in giving entire the following essay written for the Western Lancet, by Dr. J. U. Heckerman, of Tiffin City, Ohio. We trust every one having the care of children whether in city or country, will read it carefully. It is generally an easy matter to obtain farrow cow's milk not only for children "brought up by hand" but also for those weaned at the age of 12 to 15 months, before they have teeth enough to masticate solid food, and who consequently live much on cow's milk. Whether Dr. H's. conclusions are entirely correct or not, it is certainly better to err on the safe side, especially when, as now, scarcely half of the children born attain the age of three years. Here is what Dr. Heckerman says:

Except bread alone, there is perhaps no article that enters so largely into the nutrition of man as that of milk. As food and drink, it is extensively consumed by the adult portion of our race, it constitutes the exclusive nourishment of nine-tenths of all children under twelve months, and forms the chief diet of the remaining one-tenth.

The chemical and medical properties of milk have long been made the subject of scientific investigation, and long has the writer in vain looked for something from the pen of a senior observer on the point of which he now wishes to direct attention.

It has ever been a desideratum in the rearing of children who are denied the breast of a mother or nurse, to procure milk from an animal in which it approaches nearest to that of the human female, and which shall uniformly have the same constituent properties.

In looking over the tables which are given of the constituents of milk, we seldom meet two authors who agree in their observations; indeed, so great are the discrepancies, that they only serve to confound us in confusion. This circumstance can be accounted for by the different animals experimented upon, the season of the year, the character of the food afforded, and the period of pregnancy or non-pregnancy of the animals at the time of the experiments.

Taking the cow, we find that exercise and food, among other things, greatly affect the quality of the milk. The milk of cows kept in the byre contains a larger amount of butyrine than is afforded by animals running at large, while the milk of the latter abounds more in caseine. So great, indeed is the influence of food upon the secretions, that, when cows are fed upon bitter or strong-smelling grass or herbs, the taste and smell of such grass is imparted to the milk.

Milk, we have already said, forms, the chief diet of that unfortunate class of infants, who are reared by dry nursing, and it is estimated that three-fourths of these die; indeed it has been said that, in London, this mortality amounts to seven-eights of the whole number. Be this as it may, we do know the mortality to be very great, sufficiently so, at least, to demand the earnest attention of every physician.

Standard authors direct children who are thus reared, or who have been early weaned from the breast, to be supported upon milk largely diluted by water and sugar, without, however, any reference to the condition of the animal from which the milk is derived. This we hold to be a serious defect, to be especially so considered, when the remedy is at hand, yet seldom or never used for lack of information upon the subject.

Lasigne found that the milk of cows far advanced in pregnancy, contains neither caseine, sugar of milk or lactic acid, but abounded in albumen and uncombined soda; while from the same animal, shortly after parturition, the three first named substances were found, and albumen was entirely absent.

It is now the received opinion, that upon the accession of a peculiar condition, a woman should no longer furnish nourishment to a former child, and that such continuance proves detrimental to the health of both parties. These views are confirmed by experience, and by the habits of inferior animals.

If the milk of a woman in this condition afford improper nutriment to a child, surely the same fluid from a cow, in like condition, can not be proper. Remembering then, that cows, on an average, are pregnant three-fourths of the whole year, the inference must be that the milk ordinarily derived from these animals is not of a proper character to constitute the diet of infants.

With a view to remedy this universally existing evil, I would suggest to the profession the propriety of having milk cows spayed, in order to procure milk of a uniform consistency. The act of spaying is performed with facility, and is unattended with danger, the only precaution necessary being that no food be given for twelve to fifteen hours, and the milk drawn immediately before the operation; the animal becomes kindly disposed, is easily kept, will yield better, and a larger amount of milk in a given time, and is with great ease brought into a marketable condition.

The steps of the operation upon the cow are the same as upon the calf or the sow, except that it is important to place her upon the right side, unless the operator be left handed. The best time for operating is about four weeks after parturition, as the future amount of milk will depend upon the quantity given at the time of the operation. For some weeks after, the secretion of milk will be small, but will gradually increase until the amount previously given is furnished which we have known continued without interruption (of course less in winter than in summer) for the space of ten years.

It is not expected that every father can be circumstanced to keep a cow for the accommodation of his child; but if physicians were to direct the attention of those who keep cows to the above facts, it would be found advantageous to keep the spayed instead of the ordinary animal, and the proprietors of milk furnishing dairies would readily furnish the supply, if the demand was made. The above facts briefly stated we think of sufficient importance to claim the attention of every medical practitioner, as furnishing him the means of preventing much suffering on the part of advanced infancy and saving the domestic idol in the circle of many grateful friends.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, Jan. 26, 1856.

Since our last summary (Dec. 29), the transactions in Breadstuffs and farm produce generally have been quite limited. The cold weather and deep snow, have obstructed travel and the transportation of produce, while a large stock in the hands of city dealers has prevented any scarcity, or marked elevation of prices. Apples, Potatoes, Turnips, Onions, &c, have hardly changed during the month.

Constant rumors of peace in Europe and favorable news as to the foreign supply of Breadstuffs, have materially checked speculation. Flour and grain went down considerably for a time, but within a week past they have slightly revived under the influence of reports from abroad. Ordinary State Flour has been as low as $7 75 per bbl., but yesterday this brand sold for $8a$8 12—a slight decline from the precceding day.

We find upon our note-book records of sales of Breadstuffs for the 25 business days ending yesterday (excluding New-Year's day): of Flour, 320,250 barrels; of Wheat, 314,200 bushels; of Corn, 759,500 bushels; of Rye, 200,700, bushels; of Barley, 8,000 bushels. Our last report Dec. 29, for 28 days, gave of Flour, 441,450 bbls.; of Wheat, 598, 900 bushels; of Corn, 1,283,000 bushels; and of Rye, 359,500 bushels.

The following figures show the present price of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

		Dec. 29.	Jan. 26.
Flour—Ordinary State		$8 25@ 8 31	$8 00@ 8 12
Mixed Western		8 12@ 8 25	8 12@ 8 25
Favorite and Ex. State		8 37@ 8 50	8 18@ 8 31
Extra Genesee		9 50@11 50	9 00@11 25
Wheat—Canada White		2 10@ 2 20	2 05@ 2 20
Southern White		2 12@ 2 13	2 10@
Southerd Red		1 95@ 2 00	1 95@ 2 00
Western Red		1 90@ 2 00	1 75@ 1 80
Corn—Western Mixed		92@ 93	90@ 93
New Yellow and White		80@ 94	83@ 91
Rye		1 30@ 1 31	1 29@ 1 31
Barley		1 20@ 1 25	1 18@ 1 25
Oats—Western		50@ 53	49@ 51
Cotton—Middling		9¼@ 9¾	9@ 9½
Rice	℔ 100lbs	4 25@ 5 62	4 87@ 5 50
Pork—Mess	℔ bbl.	16 50@19 50	14 50@15 50
Dressed Hogs	℔ lb.	8@ 8½	7½@ 7¾
Lard	℔ lb.	12@ 13	11@ 11½
Butter—Western	℔ lb.	18@ 23	20@ 24
State	℔ lb.	23@ 33	25@ 34
Potatoes—Carters	℔ bbl.	1 50@ 1 75	1 62@ 1 75
Mercers	℔ bbl.	1 62@ 1 87	2 00@ 2 12
Onions—Reds	℔ bbl.	1 75@ 1 87	1 62@ 1 75
White	℔ bbl.	2 26@ 2 50	2 25@ 2 37
Apples—Same as at our last,			1 75@ 2 50

Beef cattle have been somewhat scarce and high, having been kept out of market by the condition of the railroads, but last Wednesday a full supply came in, and prices went down. We quote Premium cattle 11½c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 10c. a11c.; Medium quality 9a9½c.; Poor quality, 8c.a8½c.; Poorest quality 7c.a7½c.; General selling prices 9c.a10½c. Average of all sales about 9½c.

THE WEATHER, the past month, has been very cold. No signs of a "January thaw" have been observable. On the 5th inst. more snow fell during a few hours than ever dropped down in the same space of time within our recollection. On the morning of the sixth the ground was covered with a white mantle averaging nearly two feet in thickness. Full three feet of snow fell during the month. E. Merriam, "the great weather man," reported 36 inches of snow at

Brooklyn Hights between December 26 and January 17. The railroads were everywhere blocked up for several days succeeding the 5th, and only with great labor and expense were the tracks finally cleared so as to admit of regularity in freight or even passenger trains. The Long Island Railroad was snowed under about two weeks.

Merriam reports only 32 hours during 30 days past, in which the mercury stood above the freezing point in the shade—viz: January 3, 9 hours; January 13, 12 hours; January 17, 1 hour; January 18, 6 hours and January 19, 4 hours.

The mercury went down to nearly zero this morning, but now (12 m.) the sun is shining brightly, and water once more drips from the eaves.

P. S.—Monday 12 o'clock M. Nearly six inches of snow have fallen since Saturday. It is now snowing very rapidly, with wind from due north. Thermometer stands at 30° (Fahrenheit).

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

Advertisements will be displayed in CAPITALS and leaded over as many lines space as are paid for.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

Advertisements amounting to $5—five per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $10—ten per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $20—twenty per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $40—thirty per cent discount.

By the column or half column, without further discount, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

Advertisements with cuts occupying the width of two columns, will be charged double these rates.

A CHEAP AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY.

By reprinting some of the earlier volumes, and supplying deficient numbers of the later volumes, the publishers have succeeded in preparing a number of complete sets of the American Agriculturist, beginning with 1842 and ending with the volume just closed.

These constitute FOURTEEN LARGE VOLUMES, bound in uniform style, each volume being supplied with a full alphabetical index, by means of which immediate reference can be made to any topic or subject desired.

The whole set furnishes more than FIVE THOUSAND pages, in which is discussed almost every subject in the range of Agricultural Science and PRACTICE. There is scarcely a topic connected with farming, gardening, stock raising, fruit growing, &c., upon which valuable information may not be found, in one or more of these volumes. There have been few practical writers on agriculture, either in this or other countries, whose direct or indirect contributions have not assisted in filling and enriching these pages from time to time; and we think it no exaggeration to say that the 14 volumes of the Agriculturist constitute the most complete compendium or encyclopedia of Agriculture to be found in the country. We have much to regret that the entire work has not been stereotyped, so that an unlimited supply could be furnished, as it ought to form a part of every public and private agricultural library, and it would be especially desirable to have it in the archives of every agricultural society. This will not be possible, however, as there is but a limited number of complete sets, and no more of these can be obtained after the present supply is exhausted.

The fourteen volumes will be neatly packed and forwarded to any direction desired, on the receipt of $15 by the Publishers.

Any of the old Series—included in the first ten volumes—will be furnished at $1.25 per volume; and any of the new Series—included in volumes XI, XII, XIII, and XIV—at $1.50 per volume.

Orders for the above, or any further inquiries, may be addressed to
ALLEN & CO.,
No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

NEW-ROCHELLE (LAWTON) BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants for sale, on liberal terms, by the subscriber,
SIMEON LESTER,
109—111n5 New-Rochelle, Westchester Co., N. Y.

CHOICE POULTRY.—SEED POTATOES.—The subscriber has for sale ASIATIC, SEABRIGHT BANTAMS and GAME FOWLS, at very reasonable rates—all warranted PURE.

I can also furnish the superior CLINTON POTATOES at $1 per peck. All orders promptly attended to.
WM. FULMER,
109—112n6 Stewartsville, N. J.

EVERGREEN TREES.

ADAMS & MORRILL, Portland, Maine, will furnish and forward to all parts of the United States, ARBOR VITÆ, BALSAM FIR, SPRUCE, PINE, HEMLOCK, LARCH, SUGAR MAPLE, and other Forest Trees, at their usual prices. Priced lists sent to applicants.

ALSO,

8,000 Houghton's American Gooseberry Plants. 109—tfn7

NEW-ROCHELLE OR LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—The subscribers having devoted much attention to the cultivation of this new species of Blackberry for a number of years, have now the largest area of ground in cultivation of any in the country. Their Nursery, while in bearing, has been visited by thousands of persons from all parts of the States, and by all pronounced to be the " ne plus ultra."

Orders will be filled from our Grounds with great pleasuro, at the following prices: One half-dozen, $2 50; One dozen, $5 00 Fifty, $12 50, and One Hundred, $25.
GEO. SEYMOUR & CO.
South-Norwalk, Conn., Jan. 20, 1850. 109—112n2

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasonable price. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. N. Y.

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful sciences. Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No. 119 Washington-st., Boston. Sample copies sent when ordered.

TO FARMERS and MARKET GARDENERS who are desirous of making permanent improvements to their lands at very low rates.

THE LODI MANUFACTURING CO., having the exclusive right for five years to the contents of all the Privies of the City of New-York, are prepared to furnish to the Farmers at the docks or nearest landing places to their farms, Night-Soil, as received from the night-scavengers, at from 10 to 18 cents per bushel, according to distance and trouble—or delivered into the farmers' wagons, or tubs will be furnished, in which it can be carried on to the land.

This can be done without offense, and after lying upon tho ground for two days, it can be plowed under without trouble.

This is one of the most powerful, and altogether the CHEAPEST Manure now offered for sale.

Apply to THE LODI MANUFATURING CO.,
109—00n18 No. 60 Courtland-st., New-York.

BONE
Superphosphate of Lime.

L. S. HOYT'S SUPERPHOSPHATE of LIME, as a TOP-DRESSING, applied early in the Spring, upon Grain and Grass lands, will increase the yield so much as to insure its free use in this way, as well as its general application in the usual way to all the various crops where a SAFE, ACTIVE and LASTING Fertilizer is required.

A Pamphlet descriptive of my SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, containing analyses, certificates, &c., may be had gratis, on application to
L. S. HOYT,
194 Water-st., New-York.

N. B.—Orders for the above received by R. L. ALLEN,
Agricultural Warehouse,
109—111n4 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

AGENTS WANTED!!—Make Money when you can.—The subscribers desire to procure the undivided time of an Agent in every County of the United States. Efficient and capable men may make several dollars per day, without risk or humbuggery of any kind. Full particulars of the nature of the business will be given by addressing the subscriber, and forwarding one Post-office stamp to pre-pay return postage.
FUREY & CO.,
—109n15 Philadelphia, Pa.

TO FARMERS AND GARDENERS.—Your attention is called to the Manures manufactured by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY from the contents of the sinks and privies of New-York city, and free from offensive odor, called

POUDRETTE AND TAFEU.

Poudrette is composed of two-thirds night soil and one-third decomposed vegetable fiber. Tafeu is composed of three-fourths night soil and one-fourth No. 1 Peruvian Guano

These manures are cheaper and better adapted for raising Corn, Garden Vegetables and Grass, than any other in market. Can be put in contact with the seed without injury, and causes Corn and seeds to come up sooner, ripen two weeks earlier, and yield one-third more than other manures, and is a SURE PREVENTIVE of the Cut Worm.

Two bbls. Poudrette or 100 lbs. Tafeu, will manure an acre of Corn in the hill. Tafeu 1¾ cents per pound. Poudrette $2 per barrel, or $1 50 for any quantity over seven barrels, delivered on board vessel or railroad free from any charge for package or cartage. A pamphlet, containing every information, sent, post-paid, to any one sending their address to
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
109—00n17 No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers.

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

HARROWS; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, &c.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

CRANBERRY PLANTS of the Bell variety are best adapted to general culture—they bear large crops on poor, wet and boggy land, where nothing else will grow. UPLAND CRANBERRY PLANTS, which grow on poor, hill-side, and cold, barren soils, bear enormous crops of small red berries—superior in flavor to Low-land Berries.

ALSO,

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY VINES.

Circulars relating to price, culture, soil, &c., will be forwarded to applicants by inclosing a letter-stamp to
F. TROWBRIDGE,
Dealer in Trees, Plants, Roses, Vines, &c.
109—11n1 New-Haven, Conn.

ISABELLA AND CATAWBA GRAPE VINES, of proper age for forming Vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fifteen years has conferred on the Croton Point Vineyards, are offered to the public. Those who may purchase will receive such instructions for four years, as will enable them to cultivate the Grape with entire success provided their locality is not too far north.

All communications addressed to R. T. UNDERHILL, M. D., New-York, or Croton Point, Westchester County, N. Y., will receive attention.

The additional experience of three past seasons gives him full assurance that, by improved cultivation, pruning, &c., a crop of good fruit can be obtained every year, in most of the Northern, all of the Middle, Western and Southern States.

N. B.—To those who take sufficient to plaut six acres, as he directs, he will, when they commence bearing, furnish the owner with one of his Vinedressers, whom he has instructed in his mode of cultivation, and he will do all the labor of the vineyard, and insure the most perfect success. The only charge, a reasonable compensation for the labor.

Also, APPLE-QUINCE TREES, (which aro sometimes called the Orange Quince,) for sale as above.

109—11n2 R. T. U.

FISH GUANO.—The NARRAGANSETT MANUFACTUING COMPANY, of Providence, R. I., are now prepared to execute orders for their FISH GUANO. They have prepared their Guano after two methods. One by chemically treating, cooking and then drying and grinding the fish to a powder. This is put in bags and sold at $45 per tun. The other variety is prepared as above (with the exception of drying and grinding), and is then combined with an absorbant which is in itself a valuable fertilizer, and sold at two dollars per bbl. containing about 200 lbs. The compost is of great strength, and must be a very efficient fertilizer, as it is composed in great part of simple flesh and bones of fish.

Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, has made an analysis of the Powder, and says:

"It is similar to the Peruvian Guano in composition, with the exception that the ammonial matter is dried flesh, of fish, and not yet putrefied, so as to be ammoniacal. It will, however, produce ammonia by decomposition in the soil. One hundred grains of this manure, dried and finely pulverized, was submitted to analysis, with the following result:

ANALYSIS.

Ammonial matter (flesh or fish)	48.00
Phosphate of Lime	33 90
Carbonate of Lime	7.60
Sulphate of Lime	6.40
Potash of Soda	4.10
	100.00

Respectfully your obedient servant,
CHARLES T. JACKSON,
Assaser to the State of Massachusetts."

Dr. Jackson's opinion of our Guano is expressed in the following note:

Boston, March 9, 1855.

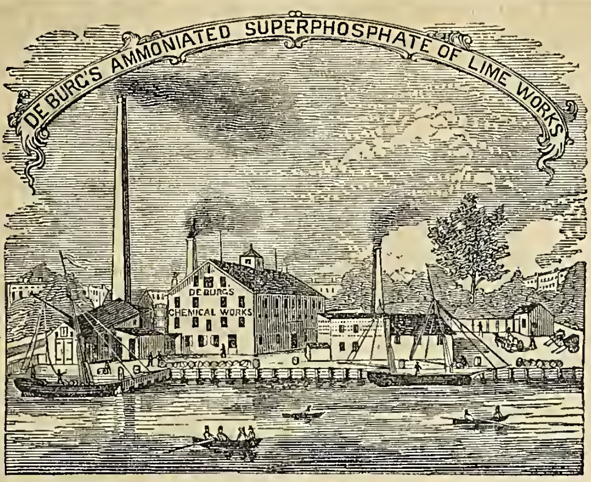
S. B. HALLIDAY, Esq.—Dear sir: In reply to your letter, I would state my entire confidence in the superiority of a properly prepared artificial guano, made from fishes, over that of the natural guano of birds, obtained from the coast of Peru.

It is obvious that more of the nitro-geneous, or ammonia-producing substances, exist in fish prepared after your method, than are found in any guano, and hence the artificial preparation will go further in the fertilization of a soil.

The ammoniacal salts act chiefly in bringing the foliage into a healthy and luxuriant condition, and thus causes the plant to absorb more of the phosphate and other necessary salts and substances from the soil, and more carbonic acid from the air. The carbonate of ammonia, also, is a solvent for humus, and it quickly saturates any injurious acid salts that may exist in the soil, and forms from some of them valuable fertilizers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. T. JACKSON, M. D., Statate Assayer, &c.

This manure is offered to agriculturists with the assurance of its becoming one of the most popular to be obtained. The Company are ready to establish agencies at such places as are desirable for the convenience of farmers. As the supply for the season is rather limited, the Company would esteem it a favor to have orders forwarded early to enable them to lay down at their agencies the requisite quantities in proper time for use. Orders may be addressed to to the Company at Providence, or to R. L. Allen, New-York; R. H. Pease, Albany; Geo. Buck, Hartford.
S. B. HALLIDAY, Agent,
No. 22 West Water-st., Providence, R. I.
Providence, Jan. 15, 1856. 109—114n16


DE BURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DEBURGS
CHEMICAL WORKS

DeBURG'S
AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my prsposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to statethat many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, amoug others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps ouc of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizors, and not equalod by guano itself. I have now (Feb. 1st(orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market, for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City, for one dollar per tun.

CASH PRICE, $45 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

C. B. DeBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I.
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.
109—116n

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York, offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf PEAR, CHERRIES, PEACHES, PLUMS, and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

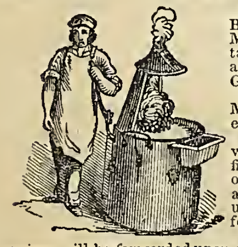
Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—116

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,
(QUEENS PATENT,)



THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—116n1190N8

BAGS.—NOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York,

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED. FLOUR, SALT GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE. HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.

Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city.

Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS.

☞ We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day. 97—109n1214

SHORT HORNS.—Short Horned Cows, Heifers and Bulls for sale. Address

JAMES W. WILKIN,
Wilkin's Villa, (near Montgomery,)
105-110n1233 Orange County, N. Y.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE,
AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devou Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,

C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—116n1212N14 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will be held at the Capitol, Albany, on the 2d Wednesday (13th) of February. Premiums will be awarded on Farms, Essays, Grain and Root Crops, Grain and Seeds, Butter and Cheese, Draining, Irrigation, Winter Fruits, &c.

B. P. JOHNSON, Sec'y.
Agricultural Rooms, Albany: Jan. 1, 1856. 1249n11N108—9

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.
GREATLY ENLARGED STOCKS.

Prices Reduced for Autumn and Spring Sales.

Sold only in packages of four sizes, as follows:

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York.
Or at New-Rochelle,
105tfn1235N19 Westchester County, N. Y.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particar attention paid to orders. 78–130

LARGE LOP-EARED RABBITS.—The above Rabbits for sale, in pairs or single. They are beautifully marked of various colors, and are pure and well bred.

Address, S. W. RODMAN, Boston, Mass.,
1247n108– 9 Or the Editor of this Paper.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.--The subscriber offers for sale the following valuable Implements:

ALLEN'S HORSE POWER.—Recent improvements in this superior Endless-chain Horse Power, enables it to run much lighter than any other yet manufactured. The forward end requires a foot less elevation than others. This makes it much easier for the Horses.

ADDITIONAL HORSE POWERS:

EMERY'S one and two-horse chain power.
ALLEN'S do. do.
BOGARDUS' Iron Sweep for one to eight horses.
TRIMBLES' do. do. for one to four do.
WARREN'S do. do. do. do.
TAPLIN'S Circular do. for one to six do.
HALL'S do. for 2 to 8 horses.

THRESHERS—
ALLEN'S No. 1 and 2 undershot.
do. No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 overshot.
EMERY'S overshot.
EDDY'S undershot.
HALL'S do. with Separator and Cleaner.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

AMES' Shovels and Spades, long and short handles and every other desirable brand.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PORTABLE CIDER MILLS, for grinding and pressing apples, roots, &c., by hand or horse power —a most convenient, economical and labor-saving machine. Price, $40.

HARVESTING TOOLS of every description.

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES—Bullock's Progressive Power-presses, and several other patterns, combining improvements which make them by far the best in use.

CORN SHELLERS—For Hand or Horse Power.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at $6 to $25, and Burr-Stone at $50 to $250, for Horse or Steam Power.

FAN MILLS—Of various kinds, for Rice as well as Wheat, Rye, Coffee, Pimento, &c.

GRAIN DRILLS—A machine which every large grain planter should possess. They are of the best patterns, embracing several varieties and sizes, and all the most valuable improvements.

SMUT MACHINES, Pilkington's, the most approved for general use.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil. Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

HAY, STRAW AND STALK CUTTERS of all sizes and great variety of patterns.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

GENERAL DEPOT IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, FOR ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS
AND OTHER MACHINERY.

The undersigned having a large Manufactory for the purpose of making all kinds of Plows, Harrows, Seed-Sowers, Harvesters (Mowing and Reaping machines and Grain Cradles of the most approved patent), Threshing and Winnowing machines, Horse Powers, Carts, Wagons, Axes, Hoes, &c.; and having in addition, a large Warehouse for the reception and sale of most kinds of machinery, such as TURNING LATHES, PLANING MACHINES, for both wood and iron, MORTICING and TENONING machines for wood, &c., is prepared to execute orders promptly and in the most satisfactory manner, for all kinds of American tools and implements suitable for EUROPE, AUSTRALIA, SOUTH-AMERICA, and all parts of the World.

Having been engaged for many years in New-York in manufacturing and exporting the above machinery, the undersigned is not only thoroughly conversant with the wants of foreign markets, but familiar with boxing, shipping, &c. Orders need only to be addressed, with remittances, to receive prompt attention,

R. L. ALLEN,
New-York Agricultural Warehouso and Seed Store,
Dec. 1855. Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

RUSSIAN FOWLS.—A few pairs of very choice Fowls of this breed may bo obtained by applying to the subscriber immediately. H. L. HYDE.
1850n108—11N12 Mystic, Ct.

WYANDOT PROLIFIC CORN FOR SALE.—The greatest agricultural wonder of the age.—Plant only one kernel, in hills four feet apart, at the north, and five to six at the south—yield 150 bushels per acre.

For circulars giving full particulars, address

J. C. THOMPSON,
108—11n1244N13 Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y.

AN INVENTION FOR PRESERVING MEATS.

A patent has recently been granted in England for preserving meats, &c., which the patentee describes as follows :

This invention relates to the preservation of animal and vegetable food and spices by the desiccating process, and consists in first desiccating the meat in small portions, either in a vacuum or by the aid of heated air. The desiccated portions are then pounded and reduced to a powder, which is again desiccated—thereby effectually removing every particle of moisture therefrom, and consequently rendering it less liable to become decomposed after long keeping.

The preservation of meat by drying it, is a process that has long been known, but it has not been brought into general use, as, in consequence of the meat being dried in pieces whether the drying be effected in vacuo or by means of hot air, all the conditions necessary to effect a good and long preservation are not obtained, by reason of the drying being imperfect and incomplete. The meat consequently retains a certain amount of moisture internally, which will eventually cause decomposition to take place.

By grating or otherwise reducing the meat, previously dried in small pieces, a powder is obtained, which, by being submitted to a second drying process, is completely deprived of moisture. This mode of preparation, without interfering with the nutritive qualities and original flavor of the meat, has the advantage of considerably reducing its bulk, by the subsequent compression to which it is subjected, whereby it is rendered much more easy of transport. Seasoning of all kinds is also submitted to the same treatment, namely, first drying and then reducing to powder, which powder is again thoroughly dried. The inventors also propose to combine meat powder with vegetable tablets, by means of compression, so as to obtain a single product, which may be termed compound meat and vegetable tablets.

In place of simply preparing the preserved vegetables in combination with the lean portions of meat, it is proposed to combine them with fat in the following manner The vegetable tablets having been prepared in the ordinary manner, they are submitted to successive immersions in soup, and allowed to dry after each immersion, either by artificial or natural currents of air. There is thus formed over the tablets a layer of concentrated soup, which layer, of course, varies in thickness, according to the number of immersions to which the tablets have been subjected. This covering, when properly dried, forms an even coat over the entire tablets, and other coverings of lead or paper may be dispensed with. When the tablets are to be used, the covering can be easily dissolved in warm water, which is thus formed into soup. These improvements are of great importance in the preservation of vegetable tablets, as the tablets thus prepared contain in themselves all that is necessary for a meal, and all further cooking is dispensed with. These tablets may be made of any nutritive preserved substance, and of any convenient size.

INDEX.

Advertisements, take a look at........113
Agricultural Society, N. Y. State........*98
American Herd Book........113
Answers to inquiries........*104
A sight worth seeing........*103
Bees, how are your........*100
Beet sugar........*104
Bed-quilts, a chapter on........116
Begonias........116
Bird's nest pie........100
Book farming, will it pay........101
Bone-dust, &c., trials of........98
Brush swamps........*98
Camellias........*102
Cancerene........113
Candles, to make lard and tallow........*101
Carrots for horsee........113
Cattle, fattening........103
" water for in winter........*103
Cellars, look well to your........*104
Check rein on horses........103
Clover, red, is it injurious to horses........101
Coal ashes........104
" " do not waste........*100
Corn let your seed suit the climate........102
Dry broth........113
Eloquent extract........102
Farm work getting easier........*101
Farmers, fix up your homes........*100
Farming in Connecticut........*100
February, calendar for........97
Figures about New-York State........*102
" important........103
Garden soils........*99
Gardening by the inexperienced........*103
Gooseberries and currants........114
Grain for France........99
Grape vine roots vs. cuttings........115
Guano, facts about........104
Ice houses........100
Manure, errors in composting........103
Meats, preserving........120
Milk for children........117
Mississippi corn ahead........99
Mutton markets........99
Pears, $4,356 worth on an acre........100
Peppermint raising........98
Pipes for water........*104
Plum, new method of perpetuating........114
" trees, selection of and how to cultivate........114
Potato bread, good and profitable........*103
Poultry, pairing of........*104
" some thoughts on hens........113
" Society, New-York State........*101
Pumpkin, more about that........*101
Radishes in March........*101
Reaper case, decision for Manny........*98
Roses, directions to the uninitiated........*98
Seeds, trials of........100
Snails and grubs, catching........103
To cultivators of small plots of ground........*104
Tomatoes, early........*104
Trees, a new wash for........115
Trip to the west........97
Vine culture........115
Watermelon molasses........102
Water, to make hard soft........100
Wheat, experiment in raising spring........100

For explanation of those marked thus (*), see page 104*.

Agents' Receipts, etc.—A number of persons in different parts of the country have interested themselves in procuring subscriptions for this paper, and we have not recently heard of any imposition practiced upon subscribers. Those more immediately connected with the Office are furnished with regular Office receipts, signed, and endorsed upon the margin, by the Conducting Editor; and when these are presented, no one need have the least hesitation in receiving them, as we do not give them out to irresponsible persons.

Letters in regard to seeds, implements, books, &c., should not be mingled with matters relating to the *American Agriculturist*. In this office we have no connection with any business whatever which does not relate directly to the affairs of the paper. When practicable, we are glad to attend to any reasonable request made by subscribers.

Paper is cheap, so is postage, and we earnestly request correspondents to write on one side of the sheet only; and further, that they will place their lines as widely apart as may be, so that in preparing articles for the printer, we can always have room between them to insert additions or corrections.

Publisher's Announcement
FOR THE
FIFTEENTH VOLUME
OF THE
American Agriculturist.
A Leading, Standard Agricultural Journal.
$1 Per Annum—Discount to Clubs.

The American Agriculturist will enter upon its Fifteenth Volume, October 1st, 1855, and be promptly issued thereafter on the first day of each month, making a large double quarto annual volume, printed with new and beautiful type, on heavy, extra white magazine paper of a superior fine quality

Its pages will be devoted exclusively to AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC ARTS, and those matters which relate directly to the cultivation of the soil.

It is designed to embrace such subjects as—Selection of seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various field and garden crops ; fruit growing; care, treatment and improvement of all kinds of domestic animals; the construction and embellishment of farm buildings ; housing, preserving, and marketing the products of the farm, orchard, garden and dairy ; and to the domestic or household labors of the rural home.

It will be *progressive* in its character, having a constant watch for all improvements and new developments ; and, at the same time, be sufficiently conservative to avoid and warn its readers against visionary theories, and the dangerous teachings of those who would create or distort scientific theories to subserve their private interests.

The *American Agriculturist* will be entirely independent of all collateral interests. The conducting and controling Editor, having no connection with any business whatever, will take good care that its pages shall be devoted only to such matters as relate directly to the interests of the reader.

It will continue under the CONTROL and MANAGEMENT of Mr. O. Judd, who will be assisted by the counsels and contributions of those gentlemen who first originated the *Agriculturist*, and have done much to maintain its uniform high character—including Messrs. A. B. Allen, Lewis F. Allen, Rev. Wm. Clift, together with several able contributors, whose united labors will serve to fill its pages with matter eminently serviceable to every owner or cultivator of even the smallest plot of ground.

TERMS:

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00
Twenty copies one year	15 00

ADDITIONAL ATTRACTIONS.

Combination of Agricultural and News Journals.

In order to furnish all our subscribers who may desire with early agricultural intelligence, such as full, extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world, we have made arrangements with Messrs. Raymond, Harper & Co., to furnish us with an extra edition of the

NEW-YORK WEEKLY TIMES,

one of the largest and most comprehensive newspapers in the country. The Agricultural Department of the *Times*, together with its full reports of sales and price of live stock, farm and garden produce, &c., is prepared expressly for that paper by Mr. Judd, the Conducting Editor of this journal.

The two papers combined will embrace all that could be desired by the cultivator of the soil, wherever he may be located. The Monthly *American Agriculturist* will furnish standard articles of a high and practical character, adapted to the Month and Season in which they appear, and so valuable as to be worth preserving in a convenient form; while the Weekly will give the news of the day, not only agricultural but in every other department. The matter in the two papers will be different, and generally distinct from each other.

Hereafter we shall mail the *American Agriculturist* on the first of each month, and the *Times* on Thursday of each week, on the following liberal terms, which will include the cost of both papers :

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 00
Ten copies of both papers one year	16 00

Back numbers of the Monthly *American Agriculturist*, when on hand, will be supplied at 10 cents per number. Back numbers of the *Times* can not be supplied.

Specimen copies always sent free.

All subscriptions or business communications to be addressed to
ALLEN & CO.,
Publishers of American Agriculturist,
No. 189 Water-st., New York.

N. B.—Editorial matters to be addressed,
Editor of American Agriculturist.

PRINTED BY H. C. REYNOLDS, No. 189 Water-st

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 6.] NEW-YORK, MARCH, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 110.

☞ **The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor of 189 Water-st. (near Fulton). Entrance at No. 191.**

☞ **All Business and other letters should be addressed to** ORANGE JUDD,
No. 189 Water-st.,
New-York City.

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

> "As yet the trembling year is unconfirmed
> And Winter oft at eve resumes the breeze,
> Chills the pale morn, and bids his driving sleets
> Deform the day delightless."

Inconstancy is the striking characteristic of this month, even under English skies, if the poet sung truly of the coming in of spring; but it is still more fitful with us. It is the most unamiable and provoking of all the months. March is a coquette, now with sunny smiles and flashing eyes hardly waiting to be wooed, and again with icy look and scornful face chilling your heart. To-day she invites you into the wild wood, and points you to the swollen brook so lately bridged with ice, and assures you that the grass will soon fringe its margin and thrust up its green spires among the bronzed leaves. To-morrow the sun is veiled, the north-east wind comes freighted with driving sleet or snow, and the trees are sheeted with ice. The forest again puts on its winter livery, the team is again yoked to the sled, and the wood that was packed for its summer seasoning in the forest is hauled home or to market. The sleigh that was carefully laid by for another winter, is again harnessed, and the merry bells once more enliven the air. The snow path is hardly broken and smoothed by travel before a thaw sets in, and the streets are hardly passable in any land conveyance. The water runs freely, wearing great gullies in the roads, the frost comes out of the ground, and the wheels sink down to the hub. It is hard times for teamsters, and still harder for their teams.

There is a cheering warmth in the sun, the snow banks are all gone from the garden, and a daring crocus wakes up from its sleep and gives promise of a blossom. The young plants are already starting in the hot-bed, and there is a summer glow beneath the glass. A cheerful sight it is to see the young cabbage and radishes breaking through the soft mold of the bed. Again the weather relapses into frost and the thick matting over the glass shuts out light and cold from the tender vegetation.

But still Nature has a plan in all these changes, and you can see a steady advance toward more genial skies. She makes haste slowly, like all artificers engaged in a great work. And how great a work is this, which passes before our eyes every returning spring! What myriads of sleeping germs are to be quickened! What measureless space is to be overspread with a more delicate fabric than the loom ever wove! What countless leaves are to thrust out their hungry mouths to the summer air to feed the mighty growth of the forest! Already the work is begun. In every cheerless trunk the sap is slowly mounting. Every sunbeam that falls upon the seeming hopeless bud in the tree top is felt like an electric spark to the remotest rootlet in the dark soil beneath. The communication is established between root and branch through all the channels of the trunk. The vital forces of the tree are gathering strength, and preparing for a resurrection as instinct with the divine power and glory as that which appeared at the grave of Lazarus. The fruit wrapt in the coarse grave clothes of the sere bud shall hear His voice and come forth in the perfect beauty of harvest.

But March, fitful as it is, brings its duties as well as its teachings and cheering prospects. But little can be done yet in the garden in the open ground, unless the season should be unusually forward. The winter has been remarkable for its steady cold all through the months of January and February. Such hard winters we believe are rarely followed by early springs. In the spring of 1836, which followed a winter more like the past than any intervening season, Hudson river did not open until April 4th, and of course the blossoming of the fruit trees and the spring work were later than usual. But if the frost should get out of the ground the latter part of the month, you can commence

TRENCHING

that part of the garden that you have determined to subject to this operation. If you have not yet tried an experiment of this kind do not defer it longer. The work is not yet pressing, and you can afford to devote a day or two to an experiment that will make you a better gardener, and give you larger faith in the capabilities of the soil. Do it thoroughly, and work in horse manure, if you have it, to the depth of two feet. You can sow ground thus thoroughly worked as soon as the process is completed. The temperature of the soil is raised by the fermenting manure, and all excess of moisture passes down readily below the seeds. Trenching prepares the way for early crops, and for a second and even a third crop the same season.

SEED SOWING,

quite likely, will be possible the last of the month. Radishes, onions, parsnips, and lettuce, can be put in as early as the ground is in a condition to be worked. Make the seed bed, and sow early. Peas may also be sown this month. The Early June, and Prince Albert are good varieties.

ONIONS

may be set out for rare ripes, and for seed. This is a good crop to grow with carrots—sowing the latter between the rows about the first of June. The onions can be marketed in June, and leave the ground to the succession crop.

CARTING OUT MANURES

should be attended to this month, especially if you are not able to command all the labor you will need later in the season. It is an advantage to cart out upon the frozen ground at least a part of the barn cellar stores. Make the heaps large, even if it costs more labor to spread them; and cover them with loam, mixed with plaster of Paris if you have it, to prevent evaporation. To have the manure upon your ground will give you a much better command of your work in planting, when there is much more to be done. Do not spread the manure until you are ready to plow it in.

CELLARS AND OUT HOUSES

should now be attended to. The filth and waste matter that has accumulated from the winter stores of vegetables should now be removed. Very likely it will be forgotten in the hurry of next month. The health of the family requires that there should be cleanliness in the cellar. Sort over the potatoes, reserving the middling size for seed. Sell what you have to dispose of now. Clear up the poultry house, putting the droppings into barrels in a dry place. Put clean fresh hay into the nests. Feed the poultry with cooked vegetables, mixed with meal while warm, and a little fresh meat occasionally.

CLOVER SEED.

Clover seed can be best sown this month, especially toward the latter part of it when the snow is gone, but before freezing nights are over. Some sow it upon the snow, so as to see when it is scattered evenly, and that it may be washed into the ground when the snow melts. But should the melting be rapid, the seeds may be washed into furrows and low spots. We have always practised sowing clover (sometimes mixed with timothy) upon the slightly frozen ground, on a calm morning. The surface of the soil is then cracked into myriads of little crevices, into which the seeds fall, and when thawing takes place they are covered in a most perfect manner. Clover seed is very dear this spring, but do not omit to sow it on that account. A crop of clover plowed under (without feeding it down) when it is at its full growth, or just at the time of blooming, is one of the cheapest and very best fertilizers. The great amount of leaf surface gathers an immense quantity of rich manurial elements from the air, than which nothing can furnish better nourishment to a poor soil. We have brought up poor land to a high state of fertility, and that too while raising every alternate year excellent crops of wheat or rye, solely by applying a little plaster and turning under clover unsparingly. Farm manures are growing scarcer, and Peruvian guano is going up, up—thanks (?) to the Peruvian monopoly—so try clover.

PLASTER

also can be sown this month upon old pastures, to good advantage in most cases. In some localities, this fertilizer produces no visible effect. On soils that show its effects it is a profitable investment. Try a few barrels, on meadows, pastures and growing wheat, and give it a chance to speak for itself.

IMPLEMENTS AND TOOLS.

Let all these be examined again, and see if every thing is in order. If the cart ladders and haying gear want mending, do it now. You are upon your last days of comparative leisure; and all the little jobs that were put off last summer for want of time, should be done now. The whole force of the farm is often hindered days in mowing time, for want of a few hours attention in March. If you lack any good tools for working the soil, buy them, and have them all ready as soon as the ground is settled.

SHEEP

will soon be dropping their lambs, and will need special attention. Let them always have a place of shelter to which they can resort in the cold storms of this month. If you have roots, give them an occasional mess cut fine. If you have not roots, give them a little grain. The profits of the flock depend very much upon the care they have this month. Emaciated sheep, and dead lambs will not pay.

YOUNG STOCK

should also have particular attention. Some farmers seem to think that a calf in the first year can live upon the refuse of the barn, moldy bog-hay or leafless cornstalks. The first year of an animal's life is its most important year. If starved and stunted then, it never fully recovers from the shock and makes what it would have made with good keeping. Do not turn them out into the woods or pastures as soon as the snow is off. There is very little nourishment in the shadow of a snow bank.

MILK COWS.

Do not dream of butter and cheese in June. unless you care for the cows now. Good food and plenty of it, brings fine large calves, udders, and brimming pails of milk in summer, meal and cut feed with roots will pay.

BREEDING SOWS.

If you have been wise in your arrangements, your pig-styes will present an animating scene early this month. If you would not be disappointed in the advent of those little snow white porkers, take care of the expectant mothers. Give them plenty of room, and keep in good thriving condition. They should not be allowed to fatten. A little animal food occasionally and a little salt in the feed is of advantage a short time before they drop their young. It makes some difference in your annual profits, whether you have twenty spring pigs to sell, or ten to buy for your own use. Look well to the styes.

WORKING OXEN.

"Where no oxen are the crib is clean; but much increase is by the strength of the ox," is a saying of Solomon, and is as true in American as it was in Hebrew husbandry. They must have full feed in order to perform the labors of plowing and getting in the crops which are just before them. We have just heard of a farmer whose oxen were found dead in the stable one morning last week. He doubtless thought it was a strange Providence that a poor farmer should lose his cattle, but all his neighbors knew that bog-hay and neglect killed his oxen. A pair of cattle in full flesh make light work of plowing. We fear working oxen will be scarce in these parts this spring. The snow shut off the usual supply of Western beef, and farmers hereabouts let the drovers have thousands of their best working oxen. This was bad economy, but can't be helped now.

PLANTING TREES.

This you have neglected too long. Plant that orchard, which you have been meaning to plant these five years, but have not quite got ready to plant. You can dig the holes this month, and get the bones and the compost. Make your selection of fruits, and send your orders to the nurseryman immediately that you may have them sent in season. You want a few more cherries and plums in the garden, a patch of strawberries, and a few shoots of raspberries. In preparing the holes, make thorough work. A hole six feet across and two feet deep, will pay better than any smaller hole. If you can find bones readily, put in a bushel to a tree, scattering them in with the compost. They will pay interest for twenty years to come. Your yard, and the road sides near the house, quite likely, want a few shade trees. Plant them this spring without fail. Make your plan now. If you do not decide upon tree planting now, you will be likely to neglect it when the work of next month is pressing. A farmer can not be expected to stop his plow to make plans. The head work should be done when you have time to look at your grounds, and to see where a tree can be put in to good advantage. Get a clear view of your whole season's work, and carry out your arrangements with patient industry.

HIRING LABOR

is attended to this month, and it is a matter of great importance. Be sure and have enough of it. Farmers err in employing too small a force upon their acres. They do not see that if they have work enough, it is just as good economy to hire three men for the season as it is to hire one. It takes no more time to direct the labors of three men than it does one. Secure the best labor, even if you have to pay more for it. An honest, reliable, industrious man, is worth more than a thievish, intemperate, profane laborer, at half the price.—Ed.

ROSES.

SIMPLE DIRECTIONS FOR THEIR CULTIVATION.

In our last we gave plain directions for selecting a few of the best Roses for small plots. We now offer a few suggestions for planting and after culture. The two articles should be taken together. In this as in other departments we receive editorial assistance from the best and most experienced cultivators in the country.

Roses require a rich deep soil, with a dry bottom, to insure successful cultivation. Before planting, the ground should be trenched (spaded) two spits deep, giving a liberal supply of well rotted manure—it matters little of what kind, providing it is well decomposed, although when it can be readily obtained, well rotted cow or pig dung would be best for a light, warm soil. For a cold heavy soil, horse dung, wood ashes, charcoal and soot would be most suitable. Leaf-mold or any decomposed vegetable matter may also be added in either case. Most of the French or Garden Roses, from their vigorous and hardy habit, will thrive in any good garden soil, but when it is desired to cultivate the choice sorts of Remontant (periodically blooming) and Bourbon Roses, a suitable soil is absolutely necessary.

PLANTING.

Having the ground properly prepared, the next thing is to procure good healthy plants. Always choose young plants, one or two years old, not older. Have nothing to do with plants that have been forced in pots, as they are short lived. Have them taken from the ground early in Spring. Upon receiving the plants, should they have been for a long time out of the ground, and appear shriveled and dry, it would be well after pruning to heel them in the ground for four or five days, covering them entirely with earth, which will recover them if not too far gone.

Choose, if possible, a dull calm day to plant, which should be done as early in the Spring as the soil is in good working order.

PRUNING.

This is a part of their management which is but little regarded, and generally sadly neglected. It is quite hopeless to expect vigorous healthy plants, or a profusion of flowers, where pruning is neglected or only half done. The reason is obvious. The buds at the base of the shoot are the most vigorous; the terminal buds (at the end of the branches) the weakest. But the terminal or leading buds are those first excited into growth, and unless removed the base buds will remain dormant, and there is also developed a greater number of the former than the plant can sustain; so that instead of two or three strong shoots bearing large clusters of fine bold flowers on each branch, each of these many shoots are simply terminated by two or three very inferior flowers of very short duration. The plant becomes naked at bottom, long and lanky—anything but ornamental, and soon dies out. The French, Remontant and Moss Roses require close pruning, which should be done as soon in the Spring as all danger of severe frost is over. All the strong growing sorts should be cut down to three eyes or buds, never allowing more than three buds. With the weaker growing sorts, cut to one or two, according to the vigor of the plant. This practice will insure ten-fold the quantity of flowers, of larger size and of much longer duration, will keep the plants in good shape and health, and they will continue to increase in size and beauty for years.

Bourbons do not require so close cutting, partaking more of the character of the Indian or China. These only require thinning. If grown as a bush, cut down the strongest shoots to eight or ten buds; if grown as a Pillar Rose, take away about one-fourth the length.

Among the Climbing and Pillar Roses, are the Baise or Hybrid varieties of the Michigan Rose, which are the most showy of all the Climbers; the Multifloras, of which there are several varieties; the Ayrshires and the Semperflorens, or Evergreens. The last two are useful for various purposes, and will thrive in soils and situations where others would not. They are especially adapted to train up the stems of trees, or form an undergrowth under them, and to cover a bank, old wall or fence. They are also excellent for training as festoons, and their being nearly evergreen increases their utility and beauty. All that is required in pruning these sorts is to thin out the weakest of the young shoots, retaining and shortening the strongest, and cutting out all the old wood. With all these sorts, too much pruning causes a too luxuriant growth and spoils their flowering.

PROTECTION.

Many of the choice and tender sorts of Bourbon and Noisette Roses, when planted in exposed situations, should have some slight protection for the Winter. Those planted in beds should be covered with earth eight or ten inches, which will prevent them from heaving by the frost, and keep them perfectly fresh; the extremities of the shoots may perish, but this will be of no consequence, as those parts would have to be removed by pruning in the Spring. The neck or dividing line between the root and stem is the part most affected. If thus exposed the plant is pretty sure to get injured, and perhaps perish. Those Noisettes trained to pillars or fences that are tender, such, for example, as Solfaterre, Chromatella, &c., should be taken down before the ground freezes up, and be covered over with two or three inches of earth. Sea-weed and leaves are very good material for protection, but are liable to harbor vermin and mice, which are very destructive. We have always found the soil to be the safest and best protection.—Ed.

HOW TO GET EARLY TOMATOES.

It is very desirable to have a supply for the family, by the fourth of July, and if we are cultivating this crop for market, it is far more profitable to have them early than late. Three weeks time gained in the market may make a difference of one hundred dollars in the receipts from an acre of ground. The profits of market gardening depend very much upon early vegetables.

An early variety of potatoes is of course indispensible. There is at least six weeks difference in the time of their maturity. Indeed some varieties seem to require the whole season, and keep on growing until the frost kills the vines. Others grow rapidly, and are ready for the table in about ninety days from planting. The Mercer is quite early, and were it not for its liability to rot, would answer very well for this purpose. But there are other varieties at least two weeks before it in ripening, and nearly equal in quality. If possible get these for the experiment. If you have a hot-bed, you may split the potatoes length-wise, and lay them upon the bed in rows as thick as you can place them, and cover them with about two inches of mold. In three weeks they will be well up, and furnished with roots several inches in length. They can be set out early in April as you would set out a cottage plant. They should be taken up carefully from the hot-bed and the plants separated by hand. There will not be a full yield by this method, but they will mature about three weeks before the same variety planted in the open ground.

If you have no hot-bed, and will not take the trouble to make one, you can put a barrel or two of potatoes by the kitchen fire or in any warm place about the 1st of March. The eyes will immediately begin to start and roots will soon form. If they are moistened with a little water occasionally, the process will be hastened. As soon as the ground is sufficiently open, take them carefully from the barrel and plant them. They should not be left until the roots are matted together, lest they be broken. This will hasten the ripening of potatoes several days.

In securing early potatoes something depends upon the aspect of the ground, and its treatment before and after planting. A piece of ground, with a slope to the south or southeast, is most desirable for early crops. The sun's rays fall upon it more directly, and the temperature is several degrees higher from this cause. To secure the best results, this southern slope should be trenched two spits deep at least, and well manured with horse dung fresh from the stable. The trenching will carry off all superfluous water from the surface, and thus increase the heat of the soil. The manure in its fermentation will still further raise the temperature, and push forward the process of vegetation. Thus there are four sources of accelerated growth to the plant—the sprouting, the more direct rays of the sun, the drainage caused by trenching, and the extra heat of the manure. The potatoes should have frequent hoeing until a month before digging. They will not be quite so early as those transplanted from the hot-bed, but will reach maturity soon enough to pay for the extra labor. If you wish for early potatoes, make your preparations now. —Ed.

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We have not seen as yet any very full reports of the meeting of this society held at Washington, February 9 to 11. The receipts of the Boston Show were $37,172, the expenses $35,350, leaving a balance of $1,822. The present finances of the Society are—a claim on Selden, Withers & Co., Washington City, for $2,149, deposited with them by a former officer of the society, and cash on hand $1,868. We are not advised of the present value of the claim against Selden, Withers & Co. The next exhibition of the society is to be at Philadelphia in October. We annex a list of the officers elected:

President—Marshall P. Wilder, of Massachusetts.

Vice Presidents—J. D. Lang, Maine; H. F. French, New-Hampshire; S. Brown, Massachusetts; J. J. Cooke, Rhode-Island; John A. Rockwell, Connecticut; Dr. J. P. Beekman, New-York; George Vail, New-Jersey; Isaac Newton, Pennsylvania; J. W. Thompson, Delaware; Anthony Kimmel, Maryland; G. W. P. Custis, Virginia; H. K. Burgwyn, North Carolina; R. W. F. Alston, South Carolina; R. Peters, Georgia; C. C. Clay, jr., Alabama; M. W. Phillips, Mississippi; John Perkins, jr., Louisiana; Gen. Worthington, Ohio; M. L. Underwood, Kentucky; John Bell, Tennessee; Joseph A. Wright, Indiana; J. A. Kennicott, Illinois; T. Allen, Missouri; Roswell Babee, Arkansas; J. C. Holmes, Michigan; D. J. Yulee, Florida; Chas. Durkee, Wisconsin; P. Ord, California; W. W. Corcoran, District of Columbia; Jose Manuel Gallegos, New-Mexico; H. H. Sibley, Minnesota; P. W. Gillet, Oregon; C. Lancaster, Washington Territory; E. Hunter, Utah; Bird B. Chapman, Nebraska.

Executive Committee—John A. King, New-York; A. L. Elwyn, Pennsylvania; D. Jay Browne, District of Columbia; John Jones, Delaware; W. H. H. Taylor, Ohio; Richard P. Waters, Massachusetts.

Secretary—W. S. King, Boston Massachusetts.

Treasurer—B. B. French, District of Columbia.

STEAM ENGINES FOR FARMING PURPOSES.

It is said that nearly two hundred steam engines of an average power of six horses each, are now employed by farmers in the County of Haddington, in Scotland, for agricultural purposes only. In addition to these, there are eighty water mills. This County contains about 200,000 acres, which would make a steam engine for every thousand acres, and a water mill for every twenty-five hundred acres.

The increased use of steam and water power for agricultural purposes in the United States, more especially on the large farms and plantations of the south and west, would greatly lighten the labors of husbandry, and increase its productions, and would otherwise be of vast benefit to our country. It is rather surprising that we Americans, so famed for our enterprise, should be so far behind the British farmer in the use of steam engines. In implements, especially for harvesting, we have been considerably in advance; but in other respects, we leave for the hand and the horse to laboriously perform what the steam engine and water mill would more easily and cheaply accomplish. —Ed.

RAISING STRAWBERRIES.

Plain, Practical Instructions to Beginners.

[The following correspondence explains itself. We should perhaps add, that Mr. Pardee is the author of "The Strawberry Manual"—the only American work upon this subject. Messrs. C. M. Saxton & Co. of this city, have just issued the third edition, which has been thoroughly revised and enlarged. This book contains full information upon the growth and culture of strawberries, and should be in the hands of those devoting any attention to the culture of this delicious fruit. Price 50 cents.]

Office of American Agriculturist,
February 15, 1856.

R. G. Pardee, Esq.:

Dear Sir—A subscriber (who is doubtless a fair representative of many others) says he was born in this city, and has always been in business and resided here until last fall, when he went into the country and purchased a house and one-fourth of an acre of land, which he wishes to use to the best advantage. One of the first things he intends to cultivate is a plot of strawberries; but he is entirely ignorant of the method of procedure. He has looked into books, but they confuse him somewhat. I will put his queries into regular order:

1. What is meant by pistillate and what by staminate strawberries?

2. What are the names of some of each kind?

3. Should these be planted together; and if so, what proportion of each?

4. What are the best kinds for him to select for a bed of about twenty feet square, and how many of each?

5. Where can he get the plants, and at about what cost?

6. Can he do any thing towards setting them this spring; and if so, when shall he commence?

7. His soil is an ordinary one, in Fordham, N. Y., which has never been used as a garden, and has consequently received no manure. Indeed three or four inches of the surface is covered with the cellar-diggings. What is the simplest method of preparing it for setting the plants, and WHEN should it be done?

8. How shall the plants be set out? how far apart, &c.? Please direct a perfect novice in the matter.

9. What after cultivation is required in early summer, in mid-summer, in autumn, and what care in winter?

By giving a few plain answers to the above questions, such as a "green hand," as he calls himself, can understand and practice upon, you will not only greatly assist him but also a multitude of others in like circumstances, and confer a favor upon your friend,

O. J.

REPLY.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Dear Sir—Your note of the 15th is at hand. I receive by letter many inquiries similar to those of your Fordham subscriber, and cheerfully avail myself of the medium of your paper to answer them. I will reply to the questions in their order.

1 and 2. Pistillate (or female) strawberries are so called from the pistillate blossoms, which appear on such varieties as Hovey's Seedling, Burr's New Pine, Crimson Cone, &c. The center of the flower has a smooth surface of closely packed pistils, almost as smooth as velvet. The staminate (or male) plants have a dozen or more stamens, or little shoots, extending upward a sixteenth of an inch or so above the mossy bed of the pistils, with distinct anthers (or little balls) upon the upper point. These are so easily discernible to the naked eye, as to be readily perceived by the most casual observer. The Large Early Scarlet, or Iowa, and Boston Pine, are good specimens of the staminate varieties. The pistillates are the greatest bearers.

3. They should always be planted and kept separate; otherwise the rampant staminates—as Mr. Longworth calls them—will soon drive all the bearing pistillates from the bed. A bed of staminates of about one-tenth the size should be placed within ten to thirty or at most fifty feet of the pistillates, to impregnate them. The pistillate or female plants will not fruit well if there are no staminate or male plants near enough to have the pollen from the anthers of the latter carried to the flowers of the former, by the air or upon the bodies of bees or other insects.

4. Hovey's Seedlings, Burr's New Pine, Crimson Cone, and Early Scarlet or Iowa, are an excellent selection of strawberries. Set on the bed of twenty feet square four rows of Hovey's Seedlings (pistillate or female plants), two feet apart, with the plants twelve inches from each other in the rows. This will require 80 plants. Then the same quantity of Burr's New Pine (also pistillates) in the next four rows, three feet from Hovey's. Three feet farther on, put one row of Large Early Scarlet or Iowas (staminate or male plants), and let boards six inches wide be set up edgewise between each variety to prevent their becoming mixed.

5. A good nurseryman can scarcely be found who will not supply, of those kinds, the 200 plants required, at $1.50 per 100.

6. The spring is an excellent time to set them. As soon as the frost is out of the ground, throw it up into ridges, and as soon as we have settled weather and the soil in good order to work, spade it deeply and *pulverize* very finely and evenly, leaving it level; then set the plants.

7. A good application of leaf mold (rotten leaves with the surface soil from the woods), bog or muck earth, if the latter has been exposed to the air and frosts for six months or more, will be excellent. If the above can not be had, then apply good loam or turf, with two quarts of salt, one peck of lime and one bushel of wood ashes, to a bed of 20 feet square. If other manure is used, let it be hog, cow or hen droppings, in moderate quantities, decomposed and thoroughly mingled with the soil to a good depth. The sooner this can be done the better—when the ground is first thrown up into ridges will be the best time.

8. The distance to set the plants in a garden, we have stated above, to be one foot apart, in rows two feet from each other. Be very careful to place the roots in pure virgin earth, and not set too deep. The plants should be well watered when set, and sometimes, if it is dry, the watering should be continued for a day or two afterwards.

9. The bed must always be kept clear of weeds. At first the hoe can be used carefully for a few weeks, and then weed by hand. If tan-bark or sawdust can be had, apply a coating one inch in thickness to the whole bed, care being taken to leave the crown of each plant free. The tan will answer to mulch with, and will keep the soil moist, which is always favorable for the strawberry, and prevents the growth of weeds and thus saves the greater part of the labor and expense of after cultivation in pulling weeds, &c.

In autmn, remove all the runners not wanted, and clean the bed. In *no instance* should one of the new plant's runners be allowed to remain nearer than ten or twelve inches to another plant. Those nearer than this should be taken up and sold or given or thrown away. Do not dig much around or between the rows, lest you disturb the thousands of little fibrous roots attached to each plant and thus maim it.

We repeat, the soil should be most thoroughly trenched, handled, mingled and plowed in the first preparation, so that it will not become readily baked and hard, for the reason that it is so difficult to work among them after the plants have become well grown.

On the approach of winter, throw a light coating of straw or leaves over the bed, to protect it from the frost.

The grand secret of strawberry cultivation is, *plenty of air, pure, fine soil, sun and water.*

R. G. Pardee.

New-York, February 20, 1856.

Hard Winter in Texas.—Mr. Butler, of Seven Oaks, Galveston Co., Texas, writes us, under date of Feb. 4: "We have had, from Christmas day to this time, the severest cold weather ever known in this State. The autumn was delightful, the weather mild and congenial until Dec. 25th, when it became cold and sleety, and from that time to this we have not had more than two or three of our usual balmy, mild winter days. Orange trees, bananas, figs, and all of our tropical fruits, are cut down to the roots. In many places even the roots are destroyed. The sugar cane no doubt has suffered too, and several planters will be deficient in seed cane.

Encouraging.—A few of our subscribers failed to renew a year since, but one after another they return. Many of them write like S. G., of Waynesville, Ill., who says, under date of Jan. 26, 1856:

"* * * I have lived one year without the Agriculturist, but do not want to live another without your paper, so long as I am able to pay for it; for I believe by living up to its teachings it will furnish clothes to the wearer, seed to the sower, bread to the eater * * *. My wife and family consider it the most welcome visitor we have of the whole family of newspapers. * * *"

Another—who is a clergyman we believe —of Fairfield County, Ct., writes Jan. 29: "Inclosed please find one dollar for one year. I should have renewed my subscription long since but for want of the "needful." I will do without dinner four days in a week, sooner than part company with my old favorite—the Agriculturist. * * *"

Such kindly appreciation, of which our letter-books show a goodly number, are every thing but food to us, and the accompanying subscription does something towards that.—Ed.

125 Miles to a Post-Office.—We have subscribers in Europe, in South and Central America, the Sandwich and West India Islands, California, Oregon and New-Mexico Territories, Nova Scotia, the Canadas, and various other distant portions of this globe, but were not before aware that any of them experienced difficulties like those detailed in the following letter, which reached us the 10th ultimo:

"Cross Timbers, Texas, Jan. 9, 1856.

Editor American Agriculturist:

Please find inclosed $2 for the American Agriculturist and Weekly Times, for 1856. I should have written sooner, but my great distance from the Post-Office must be my excuse. You can form some idea of the value I set upon the Agriculturist, when I tell you that I go 125 *miles* to a Post-Office. There is one now (Gatesville) 60 miles from me, to which please direct my papers hereafter. * * * R. T."

Thanks for your kind appreciation. We'll TRY to make the paper worthy of the expense and trouble it costs you.—Ed.

☞ A publisher proposing to issue a work in which his name was to appear as editor, said he did not feel able to edit it himself, but he did believe he was capable of getting it well edited. So we do not expect to furnish from our own experience or observation even, full and complete information upon every subject introduced, but we hope to be able to select such aid as may be the most valuable and the most reliable, and we therefore assume the entire responsibility of whatever shall appear in these pages.

We are promised the continued assistance of those who have in years past done much to render the Agriculturist what it has been, and a number of men who have practised more than they have written, have given us kind assurance of lending a helping hand to our enterprise in the future. It is due to Rev. Wm. Clift, of Stonington, Ct., to say that his editorial contributions to this and past numbers, are highly valuable, and that his future assistance will do not a little towards making the paper useful and interesting.

CHEAP FOOD FOR HORSES.

When hay is twenty dollars and upward a tun, it is not a very economical feed for horses, or other animals. Being short of this article the present winter, we have fed a horse mainly on wheat straw, corn-stalks, and salt marsh hay for the bulky part of the fodder. Of course there must be something besides bulk, and we think it matters very little what constitutes the bulk, provided it be digestible, if we have a sufficient quantity of nutritious food to mix with it. This coarse fodder has been run through a straw cutter, and then mixed with carrots for the morning feed, and with corn and cob meal for noon and night. The horse has had a warm stable, and with this food has kept in much better condition than formerly when good hay (uncut) and oats constituted the feed. It is much better economy to purchase grain or meal to mix with coarse cut feed, than to buy red top or timothy at twenty or even fifteen dollars a year. Any coarse hay on which an animal will starve alone may be made very serviceable in this way, helping both the digestion of the horse and the manure heap. With corn at ninety cents a bushel, and coarse hay or straw at five dollars a tun, we think a horse may be kept in good working condition for about sixty dollars a year. Oats and good hay run up very easily to ninety dollars, and even a hundred.

BEDDING FOR HORSES.

We have tried a new article for the last two seasons, and are so much pleased with it, that we give it for the benefit of all shore farmers. In cutting ditches through a salt water marsh, we threw up a large quantity of turf. This was cut in blocks about a foot square, and eight or ten inches thick. When thoroughly dried in the summer sun, they become very light and spongy, and will absorb a very large amount of water. Early in the autumn before the rains come on, we cart these under cover and keep them for winter use. They are easily handled when other dirt is frozen solid, and when muck needs a pick-ax or crow-bar. A layer of these under a horse closely packed makes a good bed to lie or stand on, and will keep sufficiently dry for two or three weeks. When they become saturated, they are removed through the trap door into the manure cellar, and replaced by a new bed of dry turf. The saturated turf soon heats in the cellar, and becomes very tender by spring. This adds to the quantity and quality of the manure-heap. It is no disadvantage if it is not wholly decomposed when carted to the field or garden. It is an excellent article for trenching into heavy loams and clay soils, making them light and more easily tillable. The turf should have coarse hay or straw on top of it at night, as is usual upon stable floors. A horse bedded in this way the year round will make about twenty cords of manure, and half pay for his keeping. The turf too is a good deodorizer, and little ammonia will escape to disturb the nostrils of the owner or injure the lungs and eyes of the horse. On the whole, we prefer this bedding to anything we have yet tried. It is easily accessible to a large class of our farmers along the sea-board, and will pay well for digging.—Ed.

A STROKE OF ECONOMY.

The farm is a good school of economy in many respects. The age of homespun is yet fresh in the memory of many of the living, and its close calculations are yet visible on many a homestead. Time was less valuable in that age than in this, and money far less valuable now than then. But multitudes have not yet waked up to the fact, and often spend several dollars worth of time to purchase what is not worth fifty cents at the market price. When every proprietor's time is worth two dollars a day in the legitimate business of planning and directing the labor upon his own farm, he is in poor business doing work which another will do for him at one quarter of the price.

We have already begun to divide the labor of the farm, and have reaped very great advantage from it, and this division can be carried to a still greater extent with profit. The horse and the cultivator does a great deal of work once done by the hoe and human hands. No wise man will use the latter when he can avail himself of the former. The mowing machine is doing the work of a dozen men every fine hay day in July. How long will shrewd calculators break their backs over the old fashioned scythe? Is it not about time to upset the old stumps, and put powder into the rocks, that have been plowed, harrowed, hoed, and mowed around, for six generations? They have had their day, like other dogs, and should now be bidden to "get out." Labor is no longer the only or the cheapest equivalent for the farmer's wants. The question ought to be asked, how can this or that want of the farmer be met in the cheapest way? If a man wants information in regard to husbandry, he can get the best thoughts of our best cultivators, at a much cheaper rate in the columns of our agricultural journals, than by visiting his neighbors to ask questions, and make observations.

But Tim Bunker never thought of that. He has not much opinion of "that are book-farming." But Tim observes, and is quick at calculating an idea that he sees growing right out of the sod. "There is the sort of ideas for practical farmers." He does not take the papers, but deacon Little, across the way does, and offers to lend them, but Tim is so wall-eyed on the papers, that he never accepts the offer. But he sees the deacon's strawberries and wonders if they would not grow in his soil. He plants, and succeeds. The deacon sells in the next market town at twenty five cents a quart—quite as much as he used to get for a bushel of apples. Tim thinks his strawberries look as well as the deacon's, and he goes to market and brings home the cash. "In fact," soliloquises Mr. Bunker, "this business pays, and if folks will buy the strawberries at that price, I may as well raise them." The strawberry patch was realized last year and a handsome sum of money with it. One of the coldest days last week Tim drove up to our door, after a long ride, which must have been tedious even with the excitement of fine sleighing and the music of the bells. Now thought we, Bunker has certainly come to invest a dollar in book-farming. Not a bit of it. He had heard of our Lawton blackberries through the deacon, and had come down to take a winter view of the brambles, and to find out where they could be purchased. We were of course glad to see Mr. Bunker, and gave him a dissertation on this fruit, relating our experience and mode of culture, and giving him the necessary directions for procuring the plants. Had he taken the American Agriculturist, he would have found in it much more information than we had time to give him, and in the last number no less than four parties advertising the plants for sale. Mr. Bunker's account then, stand thus with himself.

Timothy Bunker,	Dr.
To time and use of horse......................	$2 00
	Cr.
By information in February Agriculturist......	10
Balance..................................	$1 90

This is what we call a bold stroke of economy. Yet this account, foolish as it looks, is a good illustration of what is going on in many of the farming districts. Intelligent men will give two dollars to save ten cents in paper and type. We think they will do better to take the papers, and buy their information at wholesale price. Our time however was not lost with Mr. Bunker; for this article came of his visit, and we trust it will touch some of our readers in the right spot. —Ed.

WHITE CAKE—PLAIN DOUGH-NUTS.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist :

At your request, I send the recipes for two kinds of cake which you were pleased to compliment at our table. I do not know that they are new to your readers, perhaps they may be to some, and I cheerfully offer them in return for many similar favors received from my lady friends through your admirable journal :

White Cake.—Three cups of sifted flour; 1½ cups of sugar; 1 cup of sweet milk; 1 egg; 2 table-spoonfuls of butter; 2 tea-spoonfuls of cream tartar; 1 tea-spoonful of soda; and 1 tea-spoonful of essence of lemon. Beat the sugar and butter to a cream, then add the milk, (in which the soda should be dissolved,) the egg—well beaten—and the essence. Mix with the above two cups of the flour and, lastly, add the third cup, in which the cream tartar has been stirred. Then bake in pans or basins in a quick oven.

Plain Dough-Nuts.—Two quarts of flour; 2 table-spoonfuls of butter; 2 cups of sugar; 1 egg; 4 tea-spoonfuls of cream tartar; 2 tea-spoonfuls of soda; 1 pint of sweet milk, and half a nutmeg. Sift the flour, and rub the butter, sugar and cream tartar well through it; then add the egg, well beaten, and grate in the nutmeg. Dissolve the soda in the milk, and add it to the above ingredients. Mix them well together. Then roll thin, and cut in any form desired.

Sarah.

DO OUR EASTERN FARMERS BETTER THEIR CONDITION BY REMOVING TO THE WEST?

The reflections which passed through our mind in making a late trip to the Mississippi have been of a mixed character as to the permanent advantages of so great a number of our farmers changing their homes in the Eastern States, and migrating to the West. By the term Eastern, we shall comprehend the States of New-York and Pennsylvania, as well as the Eastern States proper, and by West, all west of these. It is a common supposition among Eastern farmers who have not traveled in the West, and by some who have, that the Western States are, so far as soil is concerned, a perfect El Dorado; that crops can be grown almost without culture; that a fine climate stimulates early planting and late harvesting; that cattle can be wintered out of doors or on the pastures without fodder; that abundance and plenty abound everywhere, and as a consequence the dissatisfied ones at the East have but to inventory and sell off their traps, gather their substance together, and "go out West" to enjoy, for all their natural lives, an earthly paradise. Those who journey there either by a fixed determination to see every thing in its most favorable light, comes to this conclusion, because they see but one side of the picture, or pass by the railroads only through the most inviting sections of the country, without giving themselves the time and opportunity to examine what lies before them with mature deliberation. We propose to look at the subject impartially.

We admit, to start with, that large portions of the New-England States, compared with the land west of them, are not worth cultivation. Indeed, cultivation would never have been attempted on such land except under just such circumstances as they were subdued; and since the western lands have been discovered, their cultivation would not have been continued but for the ready markets and high prices for their products in the great commercial and manufacturing towns built up among them. It is now a question with us whether large tracts of land in the Eastern States now under cultivation, would not be more profitably abandoned to the growth of timber, than to be cultivated for the scanty returns they make to the husbandman; or if cultivated, whether they should be devoted to any thing but pasturage? Our internal commerce has introduced a distribution of agricultural production to the soil best suited to particular products. Farmers are beginning to inquire what articles of growth are best suited to their own soils, and ascertaining that fact, to turn their chief attention to them. The facilities of interchanging the different commodities of distant sections of the country are now so widely diffused, that they cannot afford as formerly, when such facilities did not exist, to produce on their farms all the wastes of their families, which grow from the soil even in their own localities. They can now better afford to buy what they can with difficulty raise on their own farms, and grow such products as they can profitably raise and find a ready market for. This is right. A profitable division of labor is thus introduced, involving a system of mutual dependence, to be sure, but better in the long run for their several welfare. Thus we see that many crops, which years ago were extensively cultivated in some sections, are almost abandoned, and other crops have taken their places; while the farmers can devote their attention exclusively to crops that pay better, and enable them to buy their supplies of such articles as they do not grow, of the more distant producers, who in turn purchase a share of the productions of the others for their own consumption. It is unnecessary to enumerate these different articles, as the observation of every intelligent mind will readily see them. Thus the spirit of inquiry is stimulated, and a decided advance in our agricultural improvement is made; and so long as we are *one people*, connected by the great interests of agriculture, commerce, and manufacture, with our great arteries of transportation and travel kept open and increasing, so long will our agriculture continue in a healthy and progressive condition. Our different sections of country become equalized in value, population, commerce, and all the advantages which make up a wealthy and prosperous people.

But it is as *individuals* that we have to do with these advantages. No single man can measure his own best course by that of the aggregate. He must survey his own immediate field of action, and to this his own physical ability and means, the condition of his family, if he have one, and his own tastes and feelings, as well as theirs, must be consulted. As a general rule, no man well off in worldly goods, settled among good neighbors and society, and a fair prospect of adding to his wealth and enjoyment, and the welfare of his family, improves his condition or happiness by abandoning an old home for a new one. To those not so favored, different considerations apply. They are justified in changing their position, emigrating to newer land, and founding homes for themselves and their families in broader fields of action. The Americans, as a people, are discontented and unsatisfied with their present condition, whatever it may be. If poor, they want to be "comfortable;" if comfortable, they want to be rich; if rich, they want to be richer; and if richer, they still strive on to become the richest of all. Such is frail humanity; and perhaps, for the accomplishment of worldly grandeur, it is best that it should be so. But it is questionable whether *individual* happiness is thus advanced.

Being of the North, our observations on the subject are chiefly applicable to Northern territory. We are old enough to recollect in boyhood the rage for emigration from New-England to the new and fertile lands of the "Genesee Country" of Western New-York. Many are the times that we have sat before the cheerful, crackling winter evening fire of a New-England farm-house, and heard the glowing accounts of travelers just returned from that far-away land, and in our young hearts longed to be a man that we could at once go there and enjoy the blessings of such a marvelous world as we heard described. We heard of no raging fevers, no debilitating agues, no heart-breaking home sickness, no wearing toil in chopping down the huge forests, and logging and burning them, no suffering in the open log cabins, no exposures to untold hardship from the absence of roads and bridges, nothing of the continued privations from want of schools, churches, and society—we heard nothing, indeed, but of cheap, rich lands, the enormous crops of wheat, and the brilliant prospects of health and abundance enjoyed by the settlers who reveled in mountains of "maple sugar." When the Spring came, we huddled in with the crowd of grown up men and women, and others of the village who assembled day after day in front of the town before the "green," sunny and pleasant, to take a last look at the departing wagons and families who had assembled their goods, with all their worldly prospects and hopes, surrounded by weeping friends, and leaving desolate hearts behind them, who, alas, were never again to behold them; and as their humble, covered, overloaded wagons turned round the hill in the distance, with the faithful family dog behind them, we sighed that it was not our own joyous lot to depart and go with them to such a worldly paradise! In a few short months straggling messages of sickness, death, and misfortune to some of the departed emigrants would come back, and the loss for ever of a dear relative or friend would be bewailed in the neighborhood, and the good pastor of the neighboring meeting-house would read a notice from his pulpit that the prayers of the congregation, for consolation to the afflicted in their bereavement, were invoked "on the present occasion." Still the people kept on "moving." Not only "the Genesees," but the "Royal grants," the "Garman flats" of the Mohawk, the "Black River Country," all had their favorite advocates; and a few years later, "New Connecticut," the "Scioto Country," the "Muskingum," and sundry other El Dorados lured away the people. It was well that the parent hives at home propagated rapidly, otherwise New-England would have speedily been depopulated. Albany was then more talked of than New-York, and to become a greater city, and "Bosting," which to have seen in those times, was an achievement only vouchsafed to great men and rich people, although the greatest town in the world was on the *other* side of all our hopes and aspirations. Rich men and speculators in Massachusetts and Connecticut, who had bought largely of western land, readily exchanged them for the farms of discontented owners who were eager to emigrate, and in numerous instances, "unsight unseen," they packed up the remains of their property, and went away with high hopes to find new homes in the untrodden wilderness. So largely, indeed, had some of those speculators gone into western land, that they impoverished their own estates at home; and until within the last twenty years, they made annual journeys to their far off western estates, to collect from the struggling settlers upon them droves of cattle and horses (for money they had none) which they sold at home to replenish their exhausted coffers. Altho' embarrassing to themselves, many of the families of these early proprietors have since become rich from the increased value of the residence of their new lands, and some among them who at a later day followed the fortunes of the early emigrants, have become among the distingnished and wealthy of the new States. Thus, with accessions from other New-England States, and Eastern New-York, with an interregnum of three years during our last war with Old England, grew Northern and Western New-York, and Northern Ohio, up to the year 1825, and now become great, rich, and prosperous communities.

With the opening of the Great Erie Canal through the heart of New-York, an important revolution was effected in western emigration. This we shall notice in a subsequent paper.—Ed.

CAPITAL IN AGRICULTURE.

Count de Gourney, in his agricultural tour in Great Britain, says, that Mr. Mactier, who made a fortune in the East Indies, purchased 22,000 acres of land of the Duke of Gordon, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. The price paid was £120,000—nearly $600,000. In blasting and removing rocks, leveling, draining, liming, subsoil plowing and farm buildings, he expended about £800,000 more—$4,000,000. The estate was then divided into farms of about 400 acres each, which were let on nineteen years leases at the rate of five per cent for the money expended. This is a high rate of interest to realize in Great Britain, on a permanently safe land investment.

Few in America have the ability to make such an investment as Mr. Mactier has done in Scotland, nor would we be satisfied with so low a rate of interest; but we contend, that if capital and skill were more extensively employed in the culture of the soil among us, the profits would be much larger than they now are. The great want of our farmers is capital. They almost invariably purchase or hire two much land, and thereby exhaust their resources at once, leaving nothing but their manual labor and a precarious credit to turn the use of this land to good account. We think that a cash capital at least of from three to seven dollars per acre, should be left in the farmer's hands, to take advantage of circumstances and the markets; after paying for stocking his farm, and furnishing it with agricultural implements, seed, and manure. Such a course as this would make farming much more profitable than it now is in this country.—Ed.

Evil company is like tobacco smoke: you can not be long in its presence without carrying away a taint of it.

EARLY ASPARAGUS.

Those who have hot beds and forcing houses, and raise this article for the market will not need our hints. But any one who has a good bed of this vegetable can anticipate the season two weeks without taking up the roots, and with very little extra trouble. As soon as the frost is out of the ground we clean off the portion of the bed designed for this use. It has been well manured in the previous fall and salted. We remove to a considerable depth the surface soil, so that the eyes of the stools may feel the heat quickly. We then put over the stools a large frame twelve feet by six and cover with glass. The outside of the frame is protected with a bank of fresh horse manure, covered with sea-weed or other refuse matter. Keep the glass close upon the frame until the purple shoots begin to make their appearance. Then give fresh air every clear day until the shoots are high enough for cutting. This is among the earliest and most delicious of vegetables. Every garden should have a good large bed of it, at least six square rods, for the use of the family. If you are not already furnished, do not put off the preparation and stocking of a bed to another season. This vegetable is not only palatable and nutritious but is slightly medicinal in its influence upon the system. It is a good diuretic and will save the doctor's bills.

RHUBARB PIES.

If you have ever enjoyed this article you are looking forward with interest to the starting of the buds upon the pie plant. You can have young stalks some days in advance of the season, by the same treatment we have pointed out for early asparagus. But whether you put them under glass or not, the roots should be bountifully supplied with manure. If it is coarse and fermenting it will be all the better. It is a gross feeder and makes enormous stalks with night soil or guano. In making a new plantation, put your holes four or five feet apart, and make them broad and deep. Stalks of two pounds weight are much better than those of four or five ounces.—Ed.

Spring work in Gardens and Fields will *probably* be late this spring as there is so much frost in the ground and ice in the rivers, lakes and bays to keep the atmosphere cold and damp. Every preparation possible should be made to hurry up sowing and planting when the "signs come right." Our next number, which will reach most of our subscribers by the 1st day of April, will contain a considerable variety of hints suggestions and practical directions for garden and field work, especially adapted to April work.

Gentility is neither in birth, wealth, manner nor fashion—but in the mind. A high sense of honor, a determination never to take a mean advantage of another, an adherence to truth, delicacy, and politeness towards those with whom we have dealings, are its essential characteristics.

What utility is there in killing hogs, if they are *cured* directly afterwards?

A CARD.

For some time past our business engagements have so greatly multiplied, as to prevent our giving the attention it demanded to the publishing of the American Agriculturist. We have therefore concluded to dispose of the same, with its good will, type, and fixtures, to Mr. Orange Judd.

For nearly three years past Mr. Judd has had the principal labor of editing and publishing the paper, and during this time, has conducted it with ability and strict integrity, and to our entire satisfaction; and we have no hesitation in recommending him to the public as well qualified for the arduous task he has undertaken.

We established the American Agriculturist in April 1842, and from that time to the present, it has been our endeavor to make it a work of high character, and one which would prove eminently beneficial to the interests and advancement of the Farmers of the United States. How well we have succeeded we leave them to judge.

We bespeak for this Journal the continued and largely augmented support of the agricultural community. This branch of the farmer's business is too much neglected in this country—for that it is his business, and a very essential and profitable part of it to sustain the Agricultural press, is too apparent to admit of a moment's doubt to an intelligent mind. There is not one farmer in ten throughout our country who takes an Agricultural paper. The loss from this ignorance and neglect must be immense—fifty times what it would cost to support all the agricultural publications in the United States. Increasing attention has been given to this subject of late, and we trust the progress will be such for the future as to leave no well grounded cause of complaint from the want of adequate support to any well conducted agricultural paper.

ALLEN & CO.

New-York, Feb. 1856.

SALUTATORY.

This shall be very brief. Our old subscribers know us already; new ones must TRY us. That will be the best test of our merits or demerits. We have only to say, that our whole time and attention will be devoted to the interests of our readers, and we shall make this just as good a paper as it is possible for us to do. We expect to improve from month to month, and from year to year—for we have taken hold of the American Agriculturist as a Life Enterprise. We hope this number, and that of last month, will give some reason for our readers to expect good things in the future.

A WORD ABOUT OUR INDEPENDENCE.

This journal was established several years before anything like an agricultural warehouse was even contemplated by the Brothers Allen. After the implement business had so far grown upon their hands as to require much of their attention, they still aimed to continue the Agriculturist on the same independent basis upon which it was originated. They were, however, under the necessity of employing other persons to attend in part to its affairs, which will account for some changes in its past management.

When we first entered the office of the Agriculturist as editor, nearly three years since it was especially requested and stipulated by the publishers, that we should so conduct its reading pages that nothing should be admitted therein which could even be construed to favor or promote the private business, either of the publishers or of any other person whatever. We appeal to those columns as proof that these stipulations have been faithfully adhered to. Still we have frequently been annoyed by private as well as public hints and inuendoes, that this paper was sustained to especially further the personal ends of the Publishers. Nothing could have been farther from the truth, and we must do the Messrs. Allen the justice to say, that in all our past intercourse with them they have constantly exhibited a desire to make this paper a reliable and worthy public counsellor, and a promoter of agricultural improvement.

But to let by-gones be by-gones, we will here say, once for all, that the entire good will, type and fixtures have been purchased, and paid for in cash, by the present Proprietor, without any reservations, conditions, or obligations to any individual whatever, either expressed or implied.

We rent and retain for the present our old office, as a matter of convenience to ourselves. If Mr. Allen advertises in the Agriculturist, he pays for it as much per line as any other person. If he chances to advertise more freely than any one else, it is simply because he knows and appreciates better than others, the number and character of the persons likely to be reached by such advertisements.

We have deemed the above statements called for, as a final answer to any past or future imputations of a want of independence or reliability.

In this connection we will add another word upon

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The few columns devoted to this purpose are merely a private department where, for a stipulated consideration, we allow persons to tell their own story about their own wares, and we assume no responsibility whatever for what they may say. Still, we reserve the right to limit the space, and to reject any advertisement we may not wish to admit.—Ed.

Personal Matters.—Please excuse the amount of space devoted to personal and business matters in this number. It seemed unavoidable. We hope not to occupy so much room with such subjects again in ten years to come.

Delay.—The issue of this number has been unavoidably delayed until this 3rd day of March. Our spring and summer stock of paper was made one month ago at Chester Village, Mass., but owing to the blockade of snow and ice, it has just reached us. This is not likely to occur again. We love promptness, and extraordinaries excepted, we shall always mail the paper one day before the beginning of each month.

Renew Early.—With this number the subscription of nearly a thousand persons expire, of which they will be notified by a colored slip in the paper. We have no reason to believe that one of these will fail to renew, and we trust that each name will come back doubled or trebled—perhaps more than quadrupled. Please send in the names at once so that we may estimate what number to print for April. The *inside* sheets are printed ten or twelve days before the beginning of the month.

CUTTING GRAIN EARLY—A TRIAL OF IT.

[Mr. A. R. Vail, of Liberty Corner N. J., in forwarding a friend's subscription, gives the information contained below, which take the liberty to insert without his permission, as such practical tests are of more value than any amount of theory. The subject is not exactly adapted to this season, but it will do to think of until haying and harvesting comes round again.—Ed.]

* * In harvesting my wheat last year I endeavored to do it according to the rules laid down in the American Agriculturist of July 5th, under the head of "When should crops be gathered." I commenced cutting it as soon as I could perceive that it was changing from the milk to the dough state. My neighbors laughed and talked of my foolishness, and told me that I had spoiled my whole crop. In fact they said so much that I began to get alarmed myself. However, I let it cure in the straw, of which some was green, and when cured put it in the barn. The result was, I had the best wheat, and it made the most and the best flour of any we ever had. My neighbors are scolding the miller because he makes them such poor flour, while he makes mine so good. They even came and got some of mine to make cake for the holidays, as theirs, that they harvested ten days to two weeks later, was so miserably poor.

I also cut my Buckwheat and let it lay one day in the sun, after which I raked it and set it up, twisting the tops. In about two weeks I threshed it, in fine order. My neighbors are in the habit of letting it lay two weeks and then raking up and threshing; but the rain kept theirs laying four weeks this year, which caused it to grow. In order to accommodate one man with a little to sow I exchanged two bushels, after being informed by him that his would make just as good flour. It is not fit to eat.—A. R. Vail.

Liberty Corner, N. J., Feb. 18, 1856.

For the American Agriculturist.

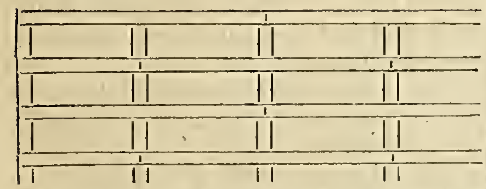
FENCING.

In this section of New-Jersey a great variety of fencing is adopted by farmers. The most durable and substantial one, on a farm five miles distant, is a post and rail fence, made with heavy chestnut posts and broad white cedar rails eleven feet long. The average cost was ten cents per foot, or $528 per mile. If chestnut rails had been used instead of cedar, the cost would have been nine cents per foot, or $475 per mile.

The most ordinary kind of post and rail fence, made of white oak posts and rails of oak, black, red or pin oak, will cost not less than seven cents per foot, or about $370 per mile.

In some cases our farmers have set up a neat looking fence, constructed of white oak posts sawed and holed, and placed eight feet apart, with a railing of hemlock boards sixteen feet long, six inches wide, and an inch and a quarter thick. The expense of this is about seven and a half cents per foot, or $396 per mile.

But I have put up on my place a kind of fencing which unites cheapness with great neatness of appearance. This is made of hemlock boards sixteen feet long, six inches wide and an inch and a quarter thick, *nailed* with a substantial fencing nail upon white oak posts put eight feet apart. There should be a breaking of joints by alternation, as in this sketch:



The tops of the post should be sawed off even with the top rail, and the whole fence whitewashed. Perhaps no kind of inclosure so neat and attractive can be made for the same money, while it is nevertheless true that it is not quite so lasting as cedar and chestnut.

The expense per mile may be estimated as follows ·

660 white oak posts, at 12c.	$79 20
Cartage do., $2 per hundred	13 20
10,560 ft. hemlock, at $12 50 per M.	132 00
Carting do., $2 per M	21 12
200 lbs. fencing nails, 7c. per lb.	14 00
Setting 330 panel fence, at 20c. each.	66 00
Total cost per mile	$335 56

—Which is but little more than one dollar per rod, and a little less than one dollar a panel of sixteen feet.

If a closer fence were desired, the two lower rails might be seven inches wide, or *five* rails instead of four might be used, though the latter is the number intended in each of the cases mentioned above.

Pennington, N. J. MERCER.

GREAT CORN COUNTRY.—A Mr. Brooks recently made an ascension in a balloon, from Rockford, Illinois. Upon his descent, being asked what he saw beneath during his elevation, he replied—" nothing! nothing but corn."

STABLE MANURE AND GUANO.

Mr. E. A., of South Seekonk, Mass., inquires: " What is your opinion of good Peruvian guano, as compared with stable manure?"

The question does not admit of a general answer. As long as you have good stable manure in abundance, that is the best. When the supply of that fails, or when it must be procured at great expense, then good guano is the cheapest, since it contains more plant-food or stimulus than common manure in a given bulk or weight. Their effects upon the soil or plants are similar—both furnish the elements the growing crops require.

For a heavy soil—that is, one that needs loosening—coarse manures produce the best effects. So, on a light, sandy soil which does not contain a sufficiency of organic or vegetable matter, we should choose stable manure, if to be had. On ordinary soils of medium fertility, the question is wholly one of relative cost of getting the two kinds of manure. Generally, unless the cultivator lives *near* a village or city, where good stable manure can be obtained cheaply and readily, it is cheaper to get guano.

Most lands of ordinary fertility may be treated profitably with more manure than the farm produces. In such cases, we repeat, first use in the most economical manner all the manures and other organic matters to be obtained at a moderate cost, and then make up any deficiency with guano.

For the American Agriculturist.

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

A CHEAP HAT-STAND—LEMON CHEESE—DELICATE CAKE.

For cheap ornamental purposes, whether applied without or within doors, there is no tree in our country more available than the Red Cedar. Its durability and lightness alike recommend it as suitable either for the the exposed garden-seat or the more sheltered hall—in which latter situation I have seen it occupying a conspicuous place as a

HAT-STAND.

And very simple and pretty it was, I can assure you. It is constructed as follows:

Procure from the forests a cedar, not too stout, but firm and straight; then after removing the bark and trimming out all the smaller twigs, leaving the large and strong ones as supports for hats and coats—cutting them off, however, about six or eight inches from the main trunk—proceed by fastening it firmly with large nails upon a piece of plank, from one foot to eighteen inches square, proportioned to the size and weight of your tree. This hat-stand, when nicely varnished, makes an appropriate and useful appendage to a country house—quite as durable, if not so handsome, as the cumbrous iron ones in common use.

I will close, now, by giving you two recipes, which, having repeatedly tried, I can assure you are most excellent:

LEMON CHEESE.

Take six eggs, and beat them up with 3 ounces of butter and one pound of sugar; put them over the fire in a brass kettle. As soon as they come to a boil, stir into them four grated lemons, and let them simmer fifteen minutes, stirring them all the time. The above mixture is excellent for filling puff paste, and as it will keep a month, country housekeepers will appreciate the convenience of having something *always* ready. I have seen it used on the tea table as a sweetmeat, and eaten with cream.

DELICATE CAKE.

Beat the white of eight eggs to a froth, then add one tea-cup of butter, two cups of sugar, one pound of flour, one tea-spoonful of soda dissolved in a tea-cupful of sweet milk, two tea-spoonfuls of cream tartar sifted through the flour. Essence to suit the taste. Bake one hour and a quarter.

ELIZA.

LOSS OF FRUIT TREES—HINTS ON SETTING OUT, &C.----No. 1.

[The following hints are from a practical tree planter, and are worthy of attention. Preserving the roots from exposure is important. Dipping them in a mixture of dung and clay or other earth, is an excellent suggestion. Any kind of vessel, or even a hollow made in a compost soil, will answer for making a "puddle" in. Mulching the trees with straw, coarse dung, leaves, or muck, is always to be commended. There are different opinions in regard to the amount of shortening-in that should be practised. We should cut off as few branches as possibly, unless the tree is unusually exposed to the wind. The tree *feeds* through its leaves, and will make roots and wood in proportion to the amount of healthy foliage.—ED.]

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist

I am persuaded that this subject claims the repeated and continued attention of those who are yearly embarking in agriculture and horticulture. No farm is desirable without more or less fruit trees upon it, and if not already stocked, the purchaser sees this defect almost the first thing. The proper manner, therefore, of securing success in the setting out of trees, and an after culture that will give thrift and vigor, becomes at once a subject worthy of consideration. The great annual loss of fruit trees testifies to the fact that all are not fully informed upon this subject.

One farmer bought dwarf pears and set them out on a dry sandy soil. Two years after he called my attention to them, and wondered what was the matter with his pear trees. I said to him they were dwarfs—that is, pears worked on *quince*, which, to thrive *must* be planted on moist, heavy soil. Also, the very necessary operation of shortening-in the stem (of which I will presently speak more at length) had been entirely neglected.

I wish now to propose a plan that is practicable, and within the reach of all who read this article, for the management of fruit and ornamental trees when received from the nurseries.

Before the trees are unpacked, prepare a trench in some spot that has already been worked over so as to be loose, taking care not to choose a place that will interefere with planting out. Let the trench be long enough to receive all the trees freely without injuring the roots by cramping. Then repack your trees, and put them at once in the trench and cover the roots well with loose earth, heaping it about them somewhat. The reason for this is obvious. They are not exposed to the sun, drying winds, or frost, but are preserved in a state of freshness until wanted for final planting out, which should be as soon as the holes can be dug.

Upon proper setting out depends much of their future success—but of this hereafter.

The next step in order, if not already done, is to procure about a seventy-five or eighty gallon cask; sink it two-thirds in the ground, and fill it two-thirds full of "puddle," made of two parts clay and one of cow dung, well wet and mixed till of the consistency of thin mortar. Into this you may dip your fruit trees as they are lifted out of the trench for setting. I apprehend no one who has ever tried this process will fail to continue it, and urge upon his friends the same practice. This puddle adheres closely to every fiber, and the earth in turn adheres to that. A world of labor, also, in watering, is saved, as no water is needed other than what the puddle affords.

Setting a stake at the side of the tree at the time of planting, to which it must be tied, is advisable, to secure it against being much shaken by high winds before the roots have a firm hold. Indeed this is always a mark of good culture. If the stake be driven after the tree is set, there is danger of seriously bruising the roots.

The next point to consider is, the shortening-in of the stem and lopping off branches. This process can not be very definitely laid down on paper, without the help of diagrams, but still something may be said that will assist the novice. A stem five feet long I would make about three, unless it was a dwarf pear, when I would have it shortened to about two, or two and a-half. And the branches I would lop off, say for the lower ones, one-third of their length, and the upper ones one-half. This process will, in a great measure, proportion the top with the root, and the growth will be proportionate.

And now comes the process of mulching, which consists in covering the ground about the roots, for a space of six feet in diameter, with any kind of coarse litter—the object of which is, to partially shade the ground, that it may not so easily dry out, but retain a more even moisture through the first and most trying season.

This course of proceeding patiently pursued will, doubtless, in the end, prove to the farmer and amateur an economical investment. What is worth doing at all is worth doing well.

Washing the bodies of young fruit trees with soft soap, at least once a year, is a great promoter of health and thrift, but should *never* be done the *first year* after planting out. Whitewashing the trunks of trees, aside from their unsightly appearance, is a practice *always* to be condemned.—W. D., Morristown, N. J.

HASTENING PEAR TREES.

Instructive Experiments on hastening Pear Trees Raised from Seed.

More than once on seeing my numerous seedling pear trees, inexperienced amateurs, full of superficial knowledge, have said to me, "What! you wait seven, eight, or ten years before your trees come into bearing? That is too long to wait; this is the method I would take to hasten their bearing: when a seedling has made a well ripened terminal shoot, I would bud or graft it on the quince stock, and thus have fruit in the third or fourth year after the operation." Others recommend grafting or budding on standards, or on the lateral branches of strong pyramids in bearing. My reply was always, "Have you tried it? Have you established by experiment the superiority of this practice?" No one ever ventured in the affirmative. They had only heard that it could be done. A prejudice. I know that twenty years ago, or more, similar experiments had been tried, but without success. Desirous, however, of making sure on this point, I renewed the experiment on an extended scale. The following was the result obtained: From fifteen of my most promising seedlings, and such as were best adapted for the purpose, I took good grafts in the third year, and worked them on strong shoots at six or seven feet high; I also took six buds of each sort and worked them on the quince stock; and I sacrificed five strong pyramids by grafting or budding on their lateral branches. These grafts and buds succeeded perfectly well for several years, with the exception of four sorts which did not succeed on the quince stock, but the others did not bear sooner than the seedlings themselves. The contrary, in fact, was the case with most of the sorts so propagated, notwithstanding that long pruning and all the other modes of hastening bearing had been resorted to, but all in vain. The cause in the opinion of highly competent men is this: every seedling pear tree according to the nature of its constitution passes through the various stages of vegetable life before it arrives at the state in which it is in a condition to bear fruit. The stem and a part of the upper branches next to it must pass through certain phases of their growth before they acquire, either by peculiarity of constitution or by age, the properties necessary for the production of the organs of fructification. Neitheir the nature of the quince stock, nor the age of a strong wild pear stock, nor that of a tall pyramid already in bearing can change the nature of the graft or bud worked upon them.

The results of the experiments and observations made upon this subject prove that it is indispensable to make a judicious selection of grafts or buds in order to produce bearing wood. It is the strong shoots of the upper part of a tree in a bearing state, or on the point of becoming such, and derived from a variety that has already borne fruit, to which the preferrence should be given. By employing scions from too young trees the fruiting of those so propagated is retarded. By taking scions from an aged, weakly, or worn out tree, all its inherent faults are reproduced in the propagated plants. Here anothpoint is touched upon, namely, the influence of the stock upon the graft and of the graft upon the stock; but this forms a different subject of consideration.—J. DE JONGHE, in Gardener's Chronicle.

THE ASPARAGUS BED.

"How shall I get an asparagus bed?" asks one of our subscribers. We will try and give the information desired.

To begin with the beginning—the seed may be sown in autumn or early in the spring, in a good loamy soil. Select good and ripe berries, put them in water, and when slightly fermented, the seed can easily be washed from the pulp and dried. One ounce will grow a thousand plants. Sow in drills an inch deep, about one foot apart and cover with fine soil, pressed down lightly. Keep the weeds out, stir the soil often, and thin the plants to six inches apart in the drills. At one year old select the best and thriftiest plants to form your bed.

The asparagus bed should be open to the morning sun. And it is better if protected from the north and east, yet open to light and air. It should be very rich, and on this, more than anything else, depends the amount and value of the product. Dig up a loamy, porous soil two feet deep, intermixing largely and thoroughly with manure to within six inches of the top; this should be filled with garden loam. Then take the young plants from the seed bed—injuring the roots as little as possible—and carefully set out in rows two feet apart, one foot apart in the row. Then cover the bed two inches deep with dark colored soil, made by a mixture of charcoal dust and muck, and sprinkle salt until the surface is white again. This will keep down the weeds and promote the growth of the asparagus, which, it should be remembered, originated on the sea-shore.

In autumn remove the dead stalks and cover the bed three inches deep with stable manure, to be forked in in the spring, with another dressing of salt. Let the stalks grow the first and second year without cutting, that the roots may get well established; the third year the asparagus will be fit to cut, and will, with similar treatment each fall and spring—with perhaps a slight addition of earth to prevent the roots from coming too near the surface—continue to yield well for many years.

Remember, room, a rich, warm soil, moist, but well drained, and salt enough to prevent the growth of weeds, are peculiarly beneficial to the asparagus plant. With these, and good care, one can not fail to have that inmate of all gardens, and asparagus bed.—Rural New-Yorker.

AN OLD SAYING AMENDED.—"You are rather late this morning, William," said good Mr. Rise-with-the-sun, to a laggard apprentice who came at a late hour. "Yes, sir, but 'better late than never,' is an old saying," replied William. "*Better never late*," said his master, "is an axiom of far more worth, though it may not be so old."

PEEPS INTO A BEE HIVE.

There is nothing from the Master Hand, untouched by man, however small and insignificant it may seem to some, but is worthy of our careful study and investigation. We forget that the minute insect, or the worm upon which we tread with loathing and disgust, was framed and received the breath of life by the same Infinite Wisdom which created and animated us. They are governed by laws which they observe far more scrupulously than man does the laws which ought to govern him, even aided as he is by reason, a power they are not supposed to possess. We have no doubt that all the lower orders, even to the tiniest of them all, enjoy their little life, and contribute to carry out the general plan. If we studied them more, and became more familiar with their habits, we should lose all repugnance to them, and perhaps find lessons of value for every-day life in many of their works and ways. Let us see!

On the 17th day of July last, we placed in our dining room window an observing bee-hive, constructed of glass, so that all the operations of the bees could be plainly and conveniently seen. A comb about a foot square was placed in it containing some brood, with plenty of workers and drones, but without the queen bee. The hive was then carefully observed by one of the ladies of the family, who has given us the following accout of their doings.

The first business the bees attended to, was in commencing the cells for a queen, and they prosecuted it with energy for two days. At the end of that time, a queen was taken from another colony and placed with them, upon which they pulled down the cells they had made in less than half the time it had required to construct them, and then began to piece out and repair the comb, which needed a corner. The queen at once commenced laying, and soon filled the unoccupied cells, when she was again removed, and the bees once more began the construction of queen cells.

The unhatched bees now began to come forth, and in two weeks the family increased so fast as to make it necessary for them to prepare to emigrate. So they built six queen cells, and in about twelve days the first queen was hatched. As soon as she was fairly born, she marched rapidly, and in the most energetic manner, over the comb, and visited the other cells in which were the embreyo queens, seeming at times furious to destroy them. The workers, however, surrounded her and prevented such wholesale murder. But for two days she was intent upon her cell purpose, and kept in almost continuous motion to effect it. On the fourteenth day the second queen was ready to come out, peeping and making various noises to attract attention.

A part of the colony then seemed to conclude that it was time to take the first queen and go, but by some mistake she remained in the hive after the swarm had left. The second queen came out as soon as possible ter the others had gone, and then there were two in the hive! Several minutes elapsed before it seemed to be known that she was left, and the two queens ran about on the comb, which was now nearly empty, so that they could be distinctly seen. But they had not apparently, noticed each other, while the workers were in a state of great uneasiness and commotion, seeming impatient for the destruction of one of them; and the mode they adopted to accomplish it was of the most deliberate and cold-blooded kind. A circle of bees kept one queen stationary, while another party dragged the other up to her, so that their heads nearly touched, and then the bees stood back, leaving a fair field for the combatants, in which one was to gain her laurels, and the other to die! The battle was fierce and sanguinary. They grappled each other, and like expert wrestlers, strove to inflict the fatal blow, by some sudden or adroit movement. But for some moments the parties seemed equally matched—no advantage could be gained on either side. The bees stood looking calmly on the dreadful affray, as though they themselves had been the heroes of a hundred wars. But the battle, like all others, had its close; one fell upon the field, and was immediately taken by the workers and carried out of the hive. By this time, the bees which left, made the discovery that their queen was missing, and although they had been hived without any trouble, they came rushing back, but not in season to witness the fatal battle, and the fall of their poor slain queen, who should have gone forth with them to seek a future home.

There was evidently sore disappointment in this result, for when they realized their loss, they uttered piteous cries, and for a day or two "refused to be comforted," wandering about, apparently without object, and in great confusion.

The hive was now crowded again almost to suffocation, and after a few days' uneasiness the bees all left and lighted on an apple tree near the window, from whence they were jarred off, and the queen and a half pint of the bees returned to their old quarters, where they are to-day, August 30, doing well. A small colony made in July, was now brought forward, and after sprinkling it as well as the bees from the house with peppermint water, so that they might be all of one odor, the two strange colonies were mixed, and have continued to go on harmoniously together.—N. E. Farmer.

No Cure no Pay.—The wife of a poor man having fallen dangerously ill, the latter went to a physician equally known for his skill and for his sordid avarice, thinking the doctor was afraid that he would not be paid for his trouble, the good man pulling out an old purse, said to him: "Here I have twenty dollars, which is all I possess in the world; whether you kill my wife or cure her, I will give them to you." The doctor, having accepted the offer, went to see the woman, but without avail; in a few days after she died. He then claimed the twenty dollars from the husband, who asked him if he had killed his wife. "No, certainly," answered the doctor. "Have you cured her?" "No." "Then you have no right to the money and I am really astonished you should dare come and claim it."

THE BALTIMORE GUANO TRADE OF 1855.

It will be seen by the statement of the imports of guano for the year 1855, that there has been a large diminution in the receipts of this popular and efficient fertilizer, compared with the receipts in 1854. This may in some measure be accounted for by the fact that, in 1854 the receipts were by no means equal to the demand; and it will be remembered that the crowds of farmers and others pressing for supplies at the office of the Agent of the Peruvian Government indicated the great want of the article. The supplies which came in that year after the season for the use of guano had passed by, were of course left over for this year. It is therefore quite probable that there has been as much used this season as there was last year.

We have no means of ascertaining the amount left over the present season, which will of course go to supply the Spring demand. The price now asked by the Agent for Peruvian Guano is $55 per ton for lots of not less than 200 tuns. From store, for less quantities, $56 is the usual price. We quote Mexican at $28 for AA, and $24 for A, and $20 to $22 for B. African is held at $30, and Columbian at $35. It is presumed the market will open at about these rates when the Spring demand comes on.

The imports of guano in 1855 were:

Peruvian	30,695 tuns.
Mexican	7,076 tuns.

We note the following exports of guano:

To London,	of Peruvian	1,149 tuns.
Liverpool,	do	2,808 "
Barbadoes,	do	579 "
Genoa,	do	345 "
Valencia, Spain,	do	490 "
Gibralter,	of Mexican	850 "
Liverpool,	do	1,141 "

The following are the imports of Peruvian guano into Baltimore for seven years:

1849	2,700 tuns.	1853	32 152 tuns.
1850	6,800 tuns.	1854	58 927 tuns.
1851	25,000 tuns.	1855	30,695 tuns.
1852	25,500 tuns.		

Baltimore Amer.

QUANTITY OF WOOL FROM DIFFERENT KINDS OF FOOD.

We find in the London Journal of Arts of August 31st, 1855, a statement of the amount of wool produced by feeding weighed quantities of various kinds of food. The results given are from one set of experiments, and they probably vary materially from what might be obtained under other circumstances; still they are instructive:

1,000 lbs.	Pounds of Wool.
Mangel Wurzel, raw, produced	5¼
Potatoes, raw, with salt	6¼
Oats, raw	10
Buckwheat	10
Barley	12½
Rye, without salt	12½
Rye, with salt	14
Wheat, raw	14
Peas	16½

We have not the method of feeding the above in each case, which leaves the table a little imperfect. The difference in the result of feeding rye with and without salt is interesting. The superior value of peas might be looked for, from their chemical composition.—Ed.

THE BARBARISM OF THE FARM.

"But many a crime, deemed innocent on earth,
Is registered in heaven; and these no doubt
Have each their record, with a curse annexed.
Man may dismiss compassion from his heart,
But God will never. When he charged the Jew
To assist his foe's down fallen beast to rise;
And when the bush-exploring boy that seized
The young, to let the parent bird go free;
Proved he not plainly, that his meaner works
Are yet his care, and have an interest
All in the Universal Father's love?"—The Task.

We have ridden to-day five miles in a bleak, winter wind, the earth robed in deep snow and the thermometer far below the freezing point. We had cloak, over-coat and mittens without, and a respectable lining of flesh under the skin, and were very uncomfortable at that. But we saw several herds of cattle in this short ride, shivering around stack yards, their four feet drawn up close together, their heads to the leeward, and the whole animal economy struggling to present the smallest amount of surface possible to the cutting winds. The poor brutes bore unmistakable evidence in their horrent hair, their peaked bones, thin flesh, and dejected air, that the rails of the stack-yard fence had been their only shelter, and the icy ground their only bed, during the winter. We pitied the poor creatures doomed to such tortures, and we are unable to repress our indignation at their brute owners. This is still a fair picture of hundreds—yes, we may say thousands—of farms in this commonwealth. Their stock is wintered out, either wholly or in part, through the rains, the snows, and the cold of winter.

This practice is as inhuman and barbarous as it is wasteful and slovenly. As we are fresh from these scenes of cruelty, and the image of the suffering kine still wounds our sensibilities, we mean to bear swift witness against it, or rather give the beasts themselves a chance, like Balaam's ass, to rebuke their stupid owners. We took notes of the speech of one of the philosophers of the herd we last past, and the burden of his eloquence seemed to be a reprobation of the owners of freezing animals, and run in this wise:

"Oh, ye humane and Christian citizens of this commonwealth, members of churches, patrons of missions, builders of hospitals and givers of alms to the poor, consider the poor dumb brutes of which God has made you the owners, and for whose happiness He will hold you responsible as for that of your fellow man. You can not doom us to the pitiless blasts of winter with impunity. Your hearts are touched with the woes of the heathen, who give their children to the crocodiles, but you have not even a thought of us, lingering in the torments of sterner jaws than those of the crocodile. Your winter blasts come down upon our quivering flesh and fill us with pangs, that make us envy the fate of the victims of the monsters of the Ganges. Death by the knife were a merciful deliverance from these slow tortures, administered by cold, wet and starvation. You pity the dumb, and build asylums to teach them the language of signs. You have no eyes to see the signs of the dumb that speak to you from your own stack yards, crying in the mute eloquence of our brute woe, 'Shelter us; feed us; in the name of Him who feeds ravens, and has made you the almoners of His bounty to us.'

"You call us *Arabs* sometimes, when we resent the smarting injuries you inflict upon us. You are worse than an Arab yourselves, for he is faithful to his friends, and his horse shares with him his barley meal and his tent. You, Christian-men, give us the stalks, and keep the meal yourselves, and for shelter give us the canopy of the heavens and a bed of snow. You call us *savages*, in your unreasonable anger, and second your calumny with your blows. You are worse than savages yourselves. They do but bind their victim to a tree, heap around him the burning pile and end his misery after a few brief hours. No savage ever doomed his fallen foe to three successive months of east winds sharper than needle points; of remorseless cold striking pain to the very marrow of his bones; of snow, sleet, and hail—God's messengers of wrath to the doomed Egyptians. This ingenious device for prolonging torment was reserved for the practice of the Christian men of the nineteenth century.

"And you practice these cruelties, not upon enemies who have injured you, but upon those whom God made your friends, and who, in consequence of his law, submit themselves to your yoke, bear your burdens, plow your fields, reap your harvests and gather them into barns. Hath he not said, 'Ye shall not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn.' We not only thresh the grain, like the ox of Scripture, but till and harvest it quicker and better, and are much more entitled to the supply of our wants. But, ingrates and rebels against Heaven's law that you are, you muzzle us with frost so that we can but half eat the miserable straw and stalks your parsimony deals out to us.

"It is abominable barbarism, and wretched economy. The unsheltered, muzzled ox has little strength to work, and yields expensive beef; the cow yields little milk, and the horse wastes your time in the field, and upon the road. If you have no humanity, treat us better for your purses' sake. Build us barns and barn cellars, dry sheds, and cisterns. Give us good food, and water without ice. Shelter saves food, saves flesh, saves milk, saves manure, and makes fat acres, fat crops, fat cattle, and a fat purse. Ye barbarians and sinners, shelter your cattle!"

A general bellow of approbation ran thro' the crowd as the horned orator descended from his snow bank rostrum, and if there was no stamping of feet, it was because that intellectual method of cheering their spokesman had not illumined their civilization. A half-starved yearling, with an icy cornstalk in one corner of his mouth, moved a vote of thanks. A bull, whose prowess lay more in his horns than in his tongue, went for printing the speech, and advocated reprisal upon the barbarians. A motherly cow, solicitous for her new-born calf, suggested that portions of the speech would be considered personal and abusive, and might lead to the withholding of their already short supplies. A wag of a steer thought the Scripture-passages might as well be expurgated, as their tormentors were not very familiar with that book, and would not understand the allusion.

We left them in the midst of the debate, and shall look with interest for the full report. The meager sketch we have given, we think, will furnish profitable food for reflection at some of our rural firesides.—Ed.

CHICCORY—IS IT A BAD WEED?

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

One page 100 I find an inquiry about chiccory: "Will some one inform me if it is a bad weed?" The Chiccory, Wild Endive or Succory, is a syngenesius plant, a native of most parts of Europe, and is the *Chicorium intybus* of Linnæus, and was first cultivated in England, in 1780, by Arthur Young. It was highly recommended by him as an herbage plant, but he added that it was difficult to eradicate it when land had been once stocked with it. Pliny mentions a plant by this generic name, which was extensively cultivated in Egypt as a salad plant; this was the Chicorum endivia, which is a native of the East Indies, of which there are several varieties, as seen in the New-York markets. The Chicorium intybus grows with a stalk about three feet high, with blue flowers, the leaves somewhat resembling those of the Dandelion, but larger and more hairy.

It was probably from the high recommendation given by Young, that the State of New-York, in their early operations to promote the agricultural interests, in 1812–'14, procured and distributed a quantity of this seed through western New-York. I have seen, within the last few years, several places where it was sown in small patches at that time, and the owners have never been able to eradicate it.

In Germany and some other countries it is cultivated as a substitute for coffee, in which case it is cultivated as we do carrots or the vegetable oyster, and the root, which is the part used, very much resembles the latter. Mixed with coffee it imparts a pleasant flavor, which some would pronounce an improvement.—N. Goodsell, New-Haven.

Wyandott Corn.—A correspondent at Stirling, Whiteside Co., Ill., says: "I see advertised in some of the papers 'Wyandott Corn.' Write under, for a northern climate, '*Morus Multicaulis.*' I have had under cultivation the past season nine varieties of corn, but am satisfied that there are, or ought to be, better."

We hear similar accounts from others in reference to the failure of the Wyandott corn in northern climates. It is well to give it further limited trials, as far north as Canada, even—but we should not put much dependence upon it further north than say 38° or 39°, North latitude.

ABOUT GREASE.

All kinds of fatty matter consist essentially of an oily liquid, united with a solid substance, the former called *elaine*, and the latter either stearine or margarine. By exposing olive oil (sweet oil) to a low temperature a portion of it becomes solid. This may be separated and subjected to pressure so as to entirely remove the liquid part and leave a permanently solid mass, which is called *margarine*. This is white, hard and brittle, and resembles spermacetti. Almond oil, linseed, and many other vegetable oils produce the same results. In like manner, butter, human fat, the fat of the goose, and some other animals, by a somewhat similar process, yield the solid margarine. The fluid portion is called elaine. The margarine melts at 118° (Fahrenheit,) and when pure it is not affected by the atmosphere, if kept for any length of time.

The fat of the ox, the sheep, the horse, the hog, the goat, &c., in like manner, yield a liquid and a solid, the former called also elaine, while the latter, or solid part, is named *stearine*. Stearine is a hard, brittle, colorless fat, and melts at 129°. Both margarine and stearine are found in small quantities in most animal fats, but one or the other greatly predominates. In the fat of man the solid part is margarine alone.

The hard candles now so common in the market, under the names of "stearine candles," "adamantine candles," &c., are chiefly stearine, obtained from tallow or lard—especially from the latter, in the process of lard oil manufacture.—Ed.

GERMAN VINE-DRESSERS AND GARDENERS WANTED.

Considerable attention is now being given to the culture of the vine in many of the southern States, and from several sources we learn that there is an increasing demand for skillful and experienced men to take charge of vineyards. One of the most prominent agriculturists of South Carolina writes us, under date of Jan. 26: "Could you not get me, among the German emigrants, next summer or fall, a Vine-dresser of reliable character—if a gardener also, so much the better? I will pay him at least better wages than they pay about Cincinnati, and he can get here as easily. If I go into vineyards extensively, I should like to colonize a dozen or two of German vine-dressers, on the plan pursued about Cincinnati—would allow better terms, and equally as healthy localities —more so, I think, by far. Please tell me if you can do anything for me in these regards."

We shall be happy to give any information to persons of the class indicated, if they will call at our office.—Ed.

Advertising.—"There is that scattereth and yet increaseth, and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."

"He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

GROWING MILLET.

"A Subscriber" wishes to know which of two correspondents he shall follow who gave somewhat different directions for growing millet, through the columns of the Agriculturist last year. In reply we would say generally, that sowing, planting, cultivating, harvesting, &c., must vary largely according to the soil, climate and other circumstances, not only of millet but for all other crops and objects of cultivation. If the soil be stiff clay, lumpy, and adhesive, it will require double the quantity of seed that a light, finely pulverized soil will need. If the seed is sown early, so as to have the benefit of all the early rains, and thus secure the germination of all the seed, a less quantity will suffice than if sowed so late that drouth may prevent sprouting. Early sowing has the further advantage of giving the crop a longer period to mature in, and thus securing a larger growth for each plant than when sown later. This allows scantier seeding. The different uses for which the crop is designed has another influence in seeding. If the crop is destined to be harvested for grain, half the quantity of seed only is required as if the object is to raise fodder only. The manner of sowing largely affects the quantity of seed required. If sown in drills, at proper distances from each other, and every seed carefully covered, two-thirds of the seed may be saved.

Our correspondent will readily see, therefore, that both the highest and lowest quantity of seed mentioned, may be properly used according to circumstances. He can only ascertain the precise quantity by experiments.—Ed.

COCHINEAL.

The French, it is said, are now cultivating the cochineal, successfully, in Algeria. This insect, originally, belongs to old Mexico, from which country, it was first brought to Europe by the Spaniards. Its use is to dye a scarlet color on silk and wool, and it has entirely superseded the old *kermes*. This insect is a *bug*—the cactus amphidia. In Mexico and Honduras, immense fields of cactus are cultivated. Every pound of cochineal is composed of about 70,000 insects.

The cochineal secretes a white cotton-like substance which envelops it on the plant it lives on. There is nothing more simple than the way the harvest is made. The insects are made to fall into a basin by means of a dull knife, and are then plunged for a few minutes into a vessel of boiling water, and are afterwards placed on a sieve and exposed to the sun for a day and a half. The insects are then completely dried, and look like little wrinkled seeds of a purplish gray color. It is in this state that they become an article of merchandise.

To dye a scarlet on wool, the cochineal is ground fine, and boiled with cream of tartar, and the chloride of tin in a kettle, for five minutes, then the wool is introduced and boiled for about an hour. That beautiful pigment—carmine—is made of this Mexican bug, boiled in a weak solution of alum, then strained through a cloth, and the fine precipitate dried in cakes.—Sci. American.

STILL MORE ABOUT "THAT PUMPKIN."

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

In your January number I read an article on the "bitter pumpkin," and in that for February I find an article from G. T., of New-York, making the suggestion that it is a hybrid or cross between the mock orange and common pumpkin, concluding as follows: "Some individual might be found which would satisfactorily establish the origin of that pumpkin." This I very much doubt. Solomon said, "there was no new thing under the sun," and surely Solomon was "some pumpkins."

In the year 1817, I was on a visit in Broome County, New-York, when my friend showed me a new species of pumpkin he had obtained a year or two previous, and said they were recommended as a substitute for Hops in making family beer. I took some of the seeds home with me, and the next summer planted and raised a fine crop of bitter pumpkins, much smaller, but of the same color as the common field pumpkin. I then tried them as a substitute for hops, and spoiled one brewing—the beer was not drinkable. Tried it again—and came to the conclusion that it might possibly do as a substitute for colocynth, but not for hops. The mock orange squash and the parti-colored gourd-shaped one I frequently cultivate for ornament—both of which are bitter, but not as extremely so as the "bitter pumpkin."

New-Haven, Ct. N. Goodseel.

ON SHOEING HORSES THAT OVERREACH.

I was bred from my youth a blacksmith and farmer, and whether a natural mechanic or not, I was always anxious to know the whys and wherefores of things, or more properly speaking, the causalities and preventives. I was also fond of trying experiments upon such things as appeared favorable for improvements. I was generally in the shop with my father evenings, rainy days, and such other times as I could be spared from the farm or school. By being in the shop so much, I obtained the views of the farmers generally, and by that was enabled to make many improvements on the farm. I learned, also, that many farmers entertain very erroneous views about blacksmiths too; still they were bound to dictate according to prejudices; as, for instance, one says: "This horse overreaches, I want you to put the forward shoes as far forward as possible, and set the hind shoes as far back, or he will tear them off." I would sometimes try to reason the case by saying the way to prevent a horse from overreaching, is to augment the speed of the forward feet, and retard the motion of the hind ones; but in order to accomplish that, I shall have to reverse your directions. Some who had little or no mechanical genius, would cut short all argument, and say, "follow my directions or else not shoe the horse." Of course, a mechanic must obey orders, if he breaks owners; so the horse would go out of the shop, nicely fettered, with his shoes clicking at every step; while, perhaps, the man of inquiry would desire a full explanation. My way is, to make the toe-corks very low, and standing a little under, and the shoes set as far back as convenient on the forward feet, with high heel corks, so as to let them roll over as soon as possible. On the hind feet, I have the heel-cork low, and the toe-cork high, projecting forward, thus keeping back the hind foot, while coming up over a high toe-cork, giving time to the forward foot to get out of the way. If thus shod, the horse will travel clean, without a click, and his speed will be increased on a trot fifteen or twenty seconds in a mile.—New-England Farmer.

FISH PONDS FOR COUNTRY PLACES.

While thousands of our fellow-citizens in town and country are planning and improving their several residences and grounds with the appliances to make them desirable, we can not, perhaps, do them a better service than to bring to their notice the construction of fish-ponds. The winter is a good time to construct these useful as well as ornamental appendages. We observe with great pleasure that the New-York State Agricultural Society have offered a prize of one hundred dollars for the best essay on the production and preservation of domesticated fish, for ponds, and we trust some one of experience and ability will compete for the prize, that those desirous of having these agreeable accompaniments to their country places may profit by the lessons which they may thus receive.

The propagation and domestication of fish is perfectly within the control of any one having the opportunity, as has been demonstrated by recent practice abroad. For the construction of ponds, we can not do a better service than to give an extract from "Allen's Rural Architecture," edition of 1854, published by C. M. Saxton, of this City:

FISH-PONDS.

Wherever water in sufficient quantity can be introduced by a side-cut from a stream, by damming the stream itself or by drawing it from a large spring, and the face of the ground in the vicinity of the house can afford a suitable place, either by inclosing a natural hollow or ravine by a dam, or by excavation, a fish-pond is well worthy the attention of a country resident, even if he be but a small farmer. As an ornamental feature of the place, it is of the most agreeable character; its utility will be unquestioned. The size of the pond is immaterial, beyond half an acre in area—less it should not be—and if it embrace even twenty, thirty, or fifty acres, provided the propictor can afford to devote so much land to that object, it will be all the better for the fish, both in numbers and in quality.

The depth of water may vary—no matter how deep—but the deepest part should not be less than ten feet, that there may be a cool retreat for the fish in summer, and a warm resting-place in winter; and if a depth to that extent can be made close to the margin on a part of the boundary, it will be all the better, as the fish may then enjoy the overhanging shade of the bank. The shore should be undulating if possible; irregular in its outline, and a part of it shaded by trees and shrubbery, as fish love shade as well as sunshine. A part of the shore should be shallow, and shelve off gradually into the deep water, and if partially grown up with rushes, or lying on a smooth, clean sand or gravel, it will accommodate the different varieties of fish to bed and spawn upon; some preferring the shady and muddy bottom of the rush beds, and others the pebbly, clear and sunny floor of the pond for that object. The temperature of the water will vary, according to its depth and proximity to the shore, from ten to twenty degrees at any given time, thus affording accommodation to different varieties of the fish which may inhabit it in the various conditions of breeding, growth, and feeding, as they are enabled to treat themselves in their natural haunts in wild waters.

According to the clearness, temperature, and purity of the water, will depend the selection of the kinds of fish which are to inhabit it. If the soil forming the bed of the pond be light, and clean, and stony, and the water be let in from a spring, or a spring brook of a low temperature, the Speckled Trout, and the cold-water fishes which are found in the same natural waters with them, may be introduced. Yet for trout, the water should have some current. They are a playful and active fish, and nothing delights them more than the bubbling water of a spring, or the rapid shooting of a stream over a rugged bed. Still in cool and clear water, a pond will satisfy them if the circulation be such as to avoid stagnation. The trout, too, love a deep hole, under a shaded bank, by the side of a projecting rock, or beneath the roots of a huge tree. There the larger ones love to gather, and from such haunts are the finest specimens to be drawn with the hook. They love to spawn in clear eddies, in sunny spots, over a stony or sandy bed, where their young fry can feed upon the animalcula and insects which play about the margin.

The Yellow Perch, a beautiful and delicious fish, may also be introduced into clear and cool water. It is quick and active in its movements, bites readily at the hook, and is exceedingly prolific. In the spring and summer season it loves to lie among rushes on the margin of a gently-flowing stream or a still pond, when it spawns and breeds. The perch will thrive in water too warm and sluggish for the trout, but like the trout, it loves to retreat and hide itself under a bank in the deep shadow during the day.

If the pond be sufficiently extensive, the Bass, in its varieties may be introduced; but as they are a much larger fish than the trout or the perch, they require a greater depth of water and a wider range for their food. The bass is an excellent table fish, and prolific in the propagation of its kind.

The Pike might also be added, in clear and cool waters. But it is a voracious, heartless wretch preying upon every other fish of lesser size within its reach, and by its rapid movements enabled to dart and seize upon everything inhabiting the same waters from which it can not escape. A single pike or two, introduced into a close pond, has been known within a few months to entirely depopulate it of all other sizeable fish. Although, in its natural haunts, a fish of excellent quality of flesh, they should hardly be introduced into the domestic pond.

The Yellow Carp (the gold fish) is a beautiful creature to throw into the pond. They are not a fish of prey upon its fellows, but live chiefly on insects and worms. They may be domesticated like the perch, and fed from the hand, and called by a bell to their accustomed feeding places in the pond. When turned out at large, their progeny will change into silver and brown varieties of color, while some of them will retain the deep orange of the originals. On the whole they are a beautiful and interesting fish, and should always be introduced into the pond.

In dark waters, resting on an oozy or muddy bottom, the European Carp is a capital and appropriate fish for propagation. It feeds like the yellow carp, chiefly on water-worms, and has a "sucker" mouth, and grows to the weight of five, ten or twelve pounds.

The Mullet is also a good fish and of equal size to the carp, and when the waters are cold, of the finest flavor for the table. In warm weather, its flesh is apt to become soft and flavorless. The mullet also takes its food by suction. It is a fish of exceeding beauty, having large scales of most brilliant varying shades of silver, purple and yellow, which give it an uncommon richness in appearance. These "sucker-mouthed" fish do not take the hook like the trout, the perch, or the bass, but may be caught by the net, or spear, as they lie in the shallow water near the shore, either in the day-time, or by torch-light at night.

The Silver Eel may also be put into the muddy bottom pond, but when confined, they make sad havoc with the other fish, as well as with young ducks or goslings, if they are permitted to swim in it. Although a migratory fish, they will remain in confined waters, but they have too many disagreeable qualities in their social relations to be the companions of the better fish that we have named.

In all waters where edible fish are kept, smaller varieties should be introduced, as the Chub, the Sun Fish or Roach, the Dace, the Shiner, the Smelt, and the Minnow; they are prolific in breeding, and furnish abundant food for the Bass, the Trout, and the Perch, which fatten upon them. The larger of these yield the finest of sport to the children, with their pin hooks and thread lines if they have no better. They are a nice pan fish also, bating the multitude of their little bones; but fried to a crisp, they are seldom in the way. In stocking a new pond, a sufficient variety of both the smaller and the larger kinds should be introduced, so that a fair trial may be had with each, and such as the waters best suit will ultimately become the chief tenants of the domain; but if Pike and Eels be introduced, let them by all means be put in together, and alone, to feed upon the frogs and lizards, or each other as chance and might may govern. As a rule however, the small fry should have possession of the waters for at least one year in advance, that they may multiply to a sufficient extent to supply partial food to the larger ones ; and as they spawn, and keep in the shallowest waters, they will thus propagate in sufficient abundance to prevent a future scarcity when their more voracious fellow-lodgers are introduced.

In ponds of sufficient extent, fish may be kept and propagated to profit, aside from supplying the family with so great a luxury in food as fresh fish are usually esteemed. They may be fed with the offal meats of the slaughter-house or the farm, or with balls of flour or meal, boilded or baked. They may be called to a particular point of the pond to feed at regular hours, if they become accustomed to it. Such extra feeding will give them an earlier and increased growth, and having less need to prey upon the smaller fish, the stock of course will be largely increased.

The feeding and care of fish will also be a source of pleasure and amusement to the members of the family; and while away many an hour of leisure or idleness that might otherwise tempt away the younger ones to resorts of dissipation or vice. In short, aside from its useful objects, we would have the fish-pond, as we would the dove-cote or the rabbitry, to give pleasure and variety to the farm, and to cluster around it all the endearments with which life in the country should be surrounded.

To give the fish pond its most ornamental features as an object of interest or beauty, it should be partially clothed with trees and shrubs. In trees we would select the soft or water maples, the willows, the water, or black ash, the birch, and the lowland poplar. In the way of shrubbery, the black alder, the wild rose, and the osier willow, make a beautiful fringe to a water margin. A certain expression of wildness should be given to the pond, where it is of any size, and if it have some hidden nooks and recesses difficult to approach from the shore, it will be all the better. Fish love seclusion. Indeed, a pond haunted on every side by the foot of man, or the tread of animals, is but an indifferent spot for their welfare, and the more it can resemble, in outward appearance and keeping, the wild water of the river, the lake, or the natural pond, the more congenial will it be to the tastes and habits of the fish, and of course more profitable to the proprietor.

It is scarcely necessary to add that the pond should have an outlet of sufficient capacity to let off its surplus water, and be thoroughly secured against accident in bursting away, as an occurrence of this kind might in a few hours, destroy the labor and solicitude of years.

Diogenes and Aristippus.—Diogenes once said to Aristippus, "If you could eat cabbages, you would not have to pay court to the great;" to which Aristippus replied, "If you could pay your court to the great you would not have to eat cabbages."

THE SIGHT OF BIRDS.

Pigeons find out newly sown fields immediately, and will frequently go several miles to a field the very morning after it is sown. Wild ducks that feed at night, are equally quick in finding their food; and in this case I should be glad to know what sense they employ. The red deer invariably knows when the shepherd's patch of grain is fit for his food, and will frequently come down in such numbers as to eat up the entire crop in a single night. The carrier pigeon finds its way home, take it what distance, and any way covered up you will. Toss it up in the air, and, after circling a few moments, it adopts its line of flight without hesitation, and without mistake. Audobon furnishes an instance of the exercise of this faculty, in his description of the razorbill.

The instinct or sagacity which enables the razorbills, after being scattered in all directions in quest of food, during the long night, often at great distances from each other, to congregate towards morning previously to their alighting on a spot to rest, has appeared to me truly wonderful, and I have been tempted to believe that their place of rendezvous had been agreed upon the evening before.

Man probably surpasses birds in extent of vision, as much as birds surpass man in sharpness. Ross in his voyage to Baffin's Bay, proved that a man under favorable circumstances, could see over the surface of the sea, one hundred and fifty miles. It is not probable that any animal can equal this extent. In sharpness of sight, on the other hand, birds greatly excel us. The eagle soaring at such a hight that he seems a mere speck, sees the grouse walking in the heather, which plant it so closely resembles in color as readily to escape the sportsman's eye. Schmidt threw at a considerable distance from a thrush a number of beetles of a pale, gray color, which the unassisted human eye failed to detect, yet the bird observed them immediately. Many birds readily perceive insects on branches where the sharpest sighted person could detect nothing.—Putnam's Monthly.

The Merchant's Clerk and the Plow boy.—The young man who leaves the farm-field for the merchant's desk or the lawyer's or doctor's office, thinking to dignify or ennoble his toil, makes a sad mistake. He passes, by that step, from independence to vassalage. He barters a natural for an artificial pursuit, and he must be the slave of the caprice of customers and the chicane of trade, either to support himself or to acquire fortune. The more artificial a man's pursuit, the more debasing is it morally and physically. To test it, contrast the merchant's clerk with the plowboy. The former may have the most exterior polish, but the latter, under his rough outside, possesses the true stamina. He is the freer, franker, happier, and nobler man. Would that young men might judge of the dignity of labor by its usefulness and manliness, rather than by the superficial glosses it wears. Therefore we never see a man's nobility in his kid gloves and toilet adornments, but in that sinew arm, whose outline, browned by the sun, betoken hardy honest toil, under whose farmer's or mechanic's vest a kingliest heart may beat.

THE VIOLET—ITS PERFUME.

"The forward violet thus did I chide :
Sweet thief, whence didst thou steal thy sweet that smells,
If not from my love's breath?"

The perfume exhaled by the *Viola odorata* is so universally admired that to speak in its favor would be more than superfluous. The demand for the essence of violets is far greater than the manufacturing perfumers are at present able to supply, and, as a consequence, it is difficult to procure the genuine article through the ordinary sources of trade.

Real violet is, however, sold by many of the retail perfumers of the West End of London, but at a price that prohibits its use except by the affluent or extravagant votaries of fashion. The true smelling principle or essential oil of violets has never yet been isolated ; a very concentrated solution in alcohol impresses the olfactory nerve with the idea of the presence of hydrocyanic acid, which is, probably, a true impression. Burnett says that the plant *Viola tricolor* (heart's ease) when bruised, smells like peach kernels, and doubtless, therefore, contains prussic acid.

The flowers of the heart's ease are scentless, but the plant evidently contains a principle which, in other species of the viola is eliminated as the "sweet that smells" so beautifully alluded to by Shakespeare.

For commercial purposes, the odor of violet is procured in combination with spirit, oil, or suet, by maceration, or by *enfleurage*, the former method being principally adopted, followed by, when "essence" is required, digesting the pomade in rectified alcohol.

Good essence of violets, thus made, is of a beautiful green color, and, though of a rich deep tint, has no power to stain a white fabric, and its odor is perfectly natural.

The essence of violet, as prepared for retail sale, is thus made, according to the quality and strength of the pomade : Take from six to eight pounds of the violet pomade, chop it fine, and place it into one gallon of perfectly clean (free from fusel oil) rectified spirit, allow it to digest for three weeks or a month, then strain off the essence, and to every pint thereof add three ounces of esprit de rose ; it is then fit for sale.

We have often seen displayed for sale in druggist's shops plain tincture of orris root, done up in nice bottles, with labels upon them inferring the contents to be "extract of violet;" customers once "taken in" thus, are not likely to be so a second time.

A good imitation essence of violets is best prepared thus :

Spirituous extract of cassie pomade	1 pint.
Esprit de rose from pomade	½ pint.
Tincture of orris	½ pint.
Spirituous extract of tuberose pomade	½ pint.
Otto of almonds	5 drops

Septimus Piesse.

BOYS, HELP YOURSELVES.

Don't be alarmed at the above, boys. We don't intend to write you a chapter on obedience, and all that. We take it for granted that you are already good and obedient. Bad boys are too full of mischief, and care too little for self-improvement, to spend any time in reading a paper like the American Agriculturist, which has nothing at all in it about Jack Sheppard and other reckless boys like him, to stimulate their wicked wishes and designs. So we will let them pass, and say a word to good boys.

Our text says, "help yourselves." We wish you could really appreciate how much is implied in those two words. Perhaps we can best communicate what we wish to say, by a story or two:

While traveling at the west in 1850, we arrived at a village hotel late one evening, and found it already over-crowded with guests. We were stowed away in a third story room with two other persons, both of whom, like ourself, were anxious to go forward by an early train, and we gave orders to be called at 4 o'clock in the morning.

On awaking at the appointed time, we were not a little amused in observing the conduct of our fellow lodgers. As they had necessarily walked some distance in the dark the evening before, their clothes had become well spattered with mud, which was quite visible now that it had become dry.

Mr. B. got up quietly, took a small billet of wood from beside the stove, and rubbed off the dried mud, and with a small broom brush finished the operation, so that his pants looked "as good as new."

But not so with Mr. L., the other traveler. As soon as he discovered the condition of his clothes, he ran to the bell and gave it a violent pull. For some reason the servant did not answer his call at once. The bell was pulled again and again, until the cord broke. Mr. L. then thrust his head through the door into the hall, and called at the top of his voice, "Waiter! waiter!" and in doing so waked up unseasonably half-a-dozen sleepers in adjoining rooms. While this was going on, Mr. B. had calmly finished his toilet, and we started for the door just in time to escape all but the first instalment of a volley of wrathful maledictions heaped upon the head of the unfortunate waiter, because he had not come sooner to brush L.'s clothes.

B. took his carpet bag in his hand, and we walked leisurely along to the railroad depot, about one hundred rods distant. After being seated, and the engine whistle had blown as a signal for starting, we looked out of the car window towards the hotel, and saw L. coming down in breathless haste, with a man following him carrying a small traveler's bag. The cars started "on time," and the last we saw of L., he was swinging his hat for the conductor to hold up, which of course he could not do. Mr. L. was left behind, although he had asked us, before going to sleep, to be sure and awaken him if the servant did not, for he "would not miss going in the first train for fifty dollars."

Now, boys, we need not tell you what were our thoughts as we journeyed on that morning, nor what they have been hundreds of other times when we have seen just such characters as the one we have described. You will say at once that Mr. L. was not to be pitied; that he might have brushed his own clothes—might have "helped himself." So we say—though we think he was to be pitied. Somebody neglected to give him a proper training while a boy. His mother, his sisters, or a servant, had probably always brushed his clothes for him. They did it in kindness—but was it a kindness? Would it not have been better for him if he had been taught—had been *compelled*—to help himself?

If we were asked what habit boys or girls should first learn in order to be sure of success when they grow up, we should at once answer, teach them to

☞ HELP THEMSELVES. ☜

Boys, if you really wish to be prospered in after life, cut out and paste up over your table, or where you can always see it, and then strictly observe the following motto:

NEVER ASK YOUR FATHER, MOTHER, BROTHER, SISTER, SERVANTS, NOR ANY ONE ELSE, TO ASSIST YOU IN DOING ANYTHING WHICH YOU CAN POSSIBLY DO YOURSELVES!

And under this, put the following rule:

What I WILL do I CAN do.

In "Our Drawer" we find the following story, which illustrates what we have been talking about above, and we print it here instead of saying anything more at *this* time. The story begins with

OPEN THE GATE.

"I wish you would send a boy to open the gate for me," said a boy of ten years old to his mother, as he paused with his books under his arm.

"Why, John, can't you open the gate for yourself?" said his mother. "A boy of your age and strength ought certainly to be able to do that."

"I could do it, I suppose," said the boy; but it is heavy, and I do not like the trouble. The servant can open it for me just as well."

What is the use of having servants, if they do not wait upon us? thought he.

The servant was sent to open the gate. The boy passed out and went whistling on his way to school. When he reached his seat in the academy he drew from his bag of books his arithmetic and began to look at the sums.

"I can not do these," he whispered to the next scholar; "they are too hard."

"But you can try," replied his companion.

"I know I can try," said John, "but it's too much trouble. Pray, what are teachers for, if it is not to help us out of difficulties? I shall carry my slate to Mr. Helpwell, the usher."

Alas! poor John. He had come to another closed gate—a gate leading into a path of useful knowledge. He could have opened it and entered in alone; but he had come to the conclusion that it was as well to have gates opened for us as to exert our own strength. The result was a decision that he had no genius for such a kind of study.

The same was true of Latin. He could have learned the declensions of the nouns, and the conjugations of the verbs, as well as others of his age; but he got other boys to do his exercises, and what was the use in opening the gate to the Latin language when others would do it for him. Oh, no! John Easy had no idea of tasking his mind or body when he could avoid it; and the consequence was that the numerous gates remained closed to him all his life—gates to usefulness—gates to happiness! Children, you should early learn that it is always best to help yourselves.—Ed.

POTATOES—BUTT ENDS VS. SEED ENDS.

John Brown of Long-Island, communicates the following to the Granite Farmer:

"Several years ago I made some experiments to satisfy myself concerning the disputed point as to which is the best portion of a potato to plant in order to obtain the largest and best yield. The exact result has been lost, and as I have often since heard and read assertions directly contrary to the conclusions which I then deduced, I resolved to repeat the experiments. Last spring I planted four rows of equal length, side by side, with two varieties of potatoes. In one row I planted none but the seed ends, so called, including about one-third of the potatoes, and in the next row I planted the butt ends of the same potatoes. I had one row of seed ends and one row of butt ends of a variety called Peach Blows. The yield of these four rows was as follows:

Pink eyes, butt ends	217 pounds.
" seed ends	170 "
Peach blows, butt ends	225 "
" seed ends	179 "

The potatoes raised from the butt ends were much larger than those from the seed ends, and appeared to be from a week to ten days earlier. This result corresponds with that of my former experiment. Had the whole field been planted with butt ends the yield would have been more than 500 bushels to the acre. I also planted two rows next to the above; in one of which I put only large potatoes, half a tuber in each hill, cut lengthwise so as to divide the eyes equally, and in the other row I dropped only small potatoes, one in each hill. From the former I dug 181 pounds, and from the latter 134 pounds. I should add that the average yield of the field was about 180 pounds to the row; and that large (not the very largest) potatoes were used for seed cut lengthwise with a half of a tuber in each hill."

Jewels for Eternity.—Are your jewls the grateful hearts of the poor? If they are, then they will never lose their lustre, but shine brighter and brighter and brighter the longer you wear them. I would rather have one grateful tear from a famished child that I had fed, than all the jewels that glisten on the queen's brow. I would rather carry light and joy to one desolate home, than call the kingdoms of the world my own.

THE NEW CHINESE POTATO.—(DIOSCOREA BATATAS.)

We had intended to say nothing in regard to this *new* Potato or "yam," until some information more definite and reliable could be obtained, than any thing we have yet seen published either in this country, or in France or England; but the attention already awakened, and the numerous letters of inquiry we have received impel as to say a word at this time.

We have translated several articles from the French journals and have also read most, if not all that has been written in England and in this country, and our own conclusion is, that the "celestial yam" should still be received with some considerable caution. It *appears* to possess merit, but nothing sufficiently definite is yet known to warrant a tithe of the claims put forth. It *may* hereafter be found worthy of a limited cultivation in particular localities, and there is a bare possibility that it may be grown on a large scale in some of the middle and southern states.

The cautious and reserved statements of the most enthusiastic French cultivators who have any character to sustain or lose, and the fact that an article of such "inestimable value" has so entirely escaped the attention of the great number of persons visiting and trading in China during several years past, are, to say the least, suspicious circumstances.

With this as with all similar new candidates for popular favor, it is well for those having time and means to experiment on a limited scale. Fortunately experiments with the Chinese Potato can be made without involving any great hazard, as a dozen of the seed tubers can be obtained for $3, and a hundred for $20, which is as far as any one should go with the plant till it has been tested. If any one goes beyond this and loses money we can not greatly sympathize with him, if he be not too young to remember the "Morus Multicaulis." Further, if any one hopes to make a fortune by getting hold of the first supplies and selling out at exhorbitant prices we can inform them that they are now either so common or so little appreciated in France—we scarcely know which—that the celebrated Paris Nurserymen, Vilmorin, Andrieux & Co., in their printed catalogues sent to this country (a copy which we have before us) offer the Dioscorea Batatas at $5 per 100, or $40 per 1,000, that is four cents each.—Ed.

Give Names.—We repeat for the twentieth time that we take no pains to answer questions from "Subscribers" or others, who do not accompany their letters with their true names. We have before us a letter from a person calling himself a "Subscriber" at New-Germantown, N. J., who attempts to "sponge" an advertisement of a book, by asking information about it. This writer gives us *a* name, but not that of any known subscriber or resident at New-Germantown. He is perhaps the *compiler* of the book he would get puffed or noticed. Such tricks are common; but though some times successful, "it is hard to catch old birds," &c.

HOW ABOUT THOSE WILLOWS?

For sometime past the agricultural and other journals, with a few exceptions, have been publishing sundry articles upon the importance, feasibility and profitableness of cultivating willows. The information (?) furnished seems to have chiefly emanated from one or two sources supposed to be reliable. We are sorry to throw cold water upon an enterprise which promised such magnificent results, but we are compelled to state that we think the public have been misled in this matter. During the past month we have taken some pains to inquire of persons who have tried the culture of several varieties of willows, and also to examine reliable documents in order to ascertain the amount required in this country. From all we can gather we are led to conclude that raising willows has been very far from a profitable business, and further that the annual importation from abroad has been *very greatly overstated.*

Carefully conducted experiments on a limited scale are desirable and we hope they will be made by those who can afford a failure; but until the practicability of the enterprise is more fully demonstrated, and the variety of willows best adapted to our soil and climate, and the mode of cultivation together with the market demand and value are better known than at present, we can not encourage any one to enter into the business with very great anticipations as to profits.—Ed.

Horse Show at Louisville.—There is to be a grand horse show at Louisville, Ky., next spring under the auspices of the south-western Agricultural and Mechanical Association. The exhibition is to begin on Tuesday, the 13th of May, and continue three days. On Friday following the close of the Fair, the first regular auction sale of stock, &c., is to take place at the fair grounds.

Bees Wanted.—We have inquiries from persons wishing to purchase one or more hives of bees. Those having them to sell should in some way make it public.

Poultry.—An answer to the inquiries of B. S., and others, prepared by a judicious assistant, reached us too late for this number. It will appear in our next.

Death from a Trifling Cause.—The Woodstock Patriot relates that about three months since Mr. Eleazer Brown, of Uxbridge, stuck a small blackberry thorn in his finger, inflicting a slight wound, which grew worse and finally mortified, causing his death on Saturday last. He was 82 years of age.

The Wool-Grower's Association of Western New-York, give notice that their 2d exhibition will be held at Penn-Yan, commencing on the 27th of May next. A premium list, amounting to $1,000, it is said, is about to be issued.

RHODE-ISLAND SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC INDUSTRY.

TRANSACTIONS FOR 1855.

Rhode-Island, though small in territory, is in many respects a model State. They have a way of doing up things promptly there, which is worthy of imitation elsewhere. Their Legislators meet, give all the attention necessary to public business, then adjourn and go home to attend to their own, instead of hanging around the public treasury for half the year.

The Societies devoted to the improvement of Agriculture, Horticulture, and other branches of domestic industry, pursue a similar course. An example of their activity and promptness we have before us in the volume of their transactions for 1855 (not 1854), which reached us within six weeks after the close of the year. We shall be agreeably surprised if we get the transactions of other State Societies (except Massachusetts) before mid-summer.

The volume before us, of 132 pages, contains all needful information in regard to the business transactions of the Society, and a digest of the more valuable addresses, reports of committees, &c. We have marked some of the more instructive and practical of these reports for future insertion.

ORGANIZATION FOR 1856.

President—Elisha Dyer, Providence.
1st. Vice-Pres.—Caleb Congdon, Cranston.
2d. Vice-Pres.—Elisha R. Potter, Kingston.
3d. Vice-Pres.—Oliver Angell, Providence.
Sec. and Treas.—Wm. R. Staples, "
Audit and Finance Committee—John J. Stimson, Providence, Henry W. Lathrop, Providence, William Viall, Providence.

Standing Committee.

1. Josiah Chapin, Providence.
2. Stephen H. Smith, Lonsdale.
3. John Holden, Warwick.
4. Christopher S. Rhodes, Providence.
5. James Eldred, Wickford.
6. William S. Patten, Providence.
7. Obadiah Brown, Manton.
8. George B. Peck, Providence.
9. William T. Grinnell, "
10. William M. Snow, "
11. Cyrus B. Manchester, "
12. James F. Simmons, Johnston.
13. Thomas J. Stead, Providence.
14. Henry Howard, "
15. Thomas A. Tefft, "
16. John J. Reynolds, Wickford.
17. Samuel B. Halliday, Providence.
18. Powell H. Carpenter, Narragansett.
19. Oliver Johnson, Providence.
20. John A. Taft, "
21. Ansel Holman, Slatersville.
22. Robert S. Burrough, Providence.
23. James Y. Smith, "
24. Hiram Kendall, "
25. Albert S. Gallup, "
26. Thomas B. Buffum, Middletown.
27. Albert Dailey, Providence.
28. Rodolphus B. Johnson, Warren.
29. Joseph H. Bourn, North Providence.
30. James D'Wolf Perry, Bristol.

To pronounce a man happy, simply because he is rich, is just about as absurd as to call a man healthy because he has enough to eat.

Frugality is good, if liberality be joined with it.

INFLUENZA IN HORSES.

At the present season of the year especially, this is a subject of no little importance to all owning or having the care of horses—a pretty large class of persons certainly. Influenza in a mild or severe form, is about as common among horses as "colds" among men, and the dictates of human kindness, as well as those of self-interest, should lead to more care in preserving the health of our domestic animals, and in restoring those already diseased. As colds are most prevalent among those persons possessing the least constitutional or acquired vigor, and those exposed to damps and chills after close confinement in warm rooms, are most liable to take "cold," so also horses jaded down by over work, or weakened by confinement in close warm stables and high feeding, are most subject to influenza. Those performing moderate work, and kept in stables just comfortable, without over feeding, generally escape this disease unless weakened by some antecedent disease.

Influenza, which is often called epidemic catarrh, generally exhibits itself in soreness of the throat, running from the nose, oozing of water from the eyes, sometimes a swelling underneath the jaws, coughing, snorting, weakness or general debility, quickening of the pulses, &c. It is difficult for the inexperienced to distinguish influenza from catarrh. The disease appears to be mainly caused by exposure to extremes of heat and cold, as well as to sudden changes of temperature, at a time when the animal lacks physical vigor to resist their effects upon the system.

Influenza is sometimes *endemic* (that is, confined to particular localities, and due to local causes), and sometimes *epidemic* (that is, not confined to any particular place or season). It is also considered contagious, though this opinion may in part result from the fact that the disease extends to all or nearly all of the animals subjected to similar treatment and exposure. We have known the larger number of a steed of horses affected while others in the same stables, having a more vigorous constitution, and subjected to less bad management have entirely escaped.

TREATMENT.

The remarks already made respecting the causes of horse-influenza indicate some of the preventative means to be employed. In regard to the treatment of animals already diseased, we can not, perhaps, do better than to quote from the New-England Farmer, the recent remarks of Dr. Dadd, Veterinary Surgeon, in reply to a question proposed to him. He says: The disease assumes a variety of forms, hence no special treatment can be adopted; variations in the *symptoms* indicate the same as regards *treatment*; and what might be good medicine at one stage, would be injurious at another. Some general idea of treatment, however, may be gleaned from the following:

The disease is very prostrating, and as it progresses, the heart, lungs and brain become congested and embarrassed. The blood accumulates carbon; the heart fails to propel, and the lungs to vitalize the same. This state demands stimulants of a character that shall excite vital action, and tend to effect chemical changes in the blood; the most valuable agent in this view is carbonate of ammonia. In veterinary practice this agent is considered as one of the most valuable diffusible stimulants, it acts first on the nerves of the stomach, and through them excites the whole nervous system; it may be given in doses of from one to three drachms, either in the form of bolus or drench. Its stimulating influence, over the heart and nervous system, may be increased by the addition of one or more drachms of good Jamaica ginger. This treatment may be continued until congestion subsides, which may be known by the fulness of pulse and heat of the external surface of the body, and by other symptoms which usually attend fever in its inflammatory stage.

The exciting, or stimulating plan of treatment, must never be entirely abandoned; to husband the powers of the system, and thus guard against subsequent prostration, must be our chief object; although the case may require a sedative to-day, (in the form of camphor and white hellebore,) to-morrow the symptoms may again indicate excitants, and thus the treatment must necessarily vary.

Excitants, or counter-excitants, are also, at times, needed externally; if the patient has a deep-seated cough, strong liniment, composed of oil, hartshorn and turpentine, (and sometimes camphor,) must be applied. Often I annoint the parts with a thick paste, composed of mustard and vinegar. The membranes of the *fauces*—throat—are excessively sore, then the same course has to be pursued, at the same time a mucilaginous drink, composed of flaxseed sweetened with honey, must be allowed. The nervous system must also be aroused by the application of the above liniment to the spinal column.

At another stage of the malady, *diaphoresis* must be excited by clothing the body with flannel, and drenching with a preparation known as solution of *acetate* of *ammonia*, to the amount of six or eight ounces per day, until the skin feels soft and warm.

In case *œdema*—local dropsy—of the body or extremities sets in, the patient then requires *diuretics*; one or two ounces of sweet spirits of nitre may be given in linseed tea, until the kidneys respond, and the secretion of urine becomes augmented. The bowels are sometimes inactive, the *fæces* are clothed with mucus, and have a fœtid odor. I then prescribe:

Linseed oil.............. } Equal parts.
Lime-water.............. }
Dose—Eight ounces.

Occasionally the animal becomes uneasy, paws with his fore feet, the pulse is somewhat wiry, and beats at the rate of fifty, and over, per minute. I then give camphorated tincture of opium, one ounce, and repeat the dose if necessary. This state is one of great danger because it indicates active congestion of the bowels, which may result in mortification of the same. In order to ward off the last stage, I depend chiefly on stimulants, sedatives and tonics. The best tonics are powdered *gentian*, *golden-seal*, *quill-bark*; either of which may be advantageously given, as they possess very little if any astringency.

Prescription for a tonic ball:

Either of above tonics, pow'd.....3 drachms.
Ginger.............................1 drachm.

Rub them together in a mortar, then add a tea-spoonful of molasses and a small piece of brown soap, and form a bolus.

Among all the cases that have come under my care and observation, I have neither found it advisable nor necessary to practice the *anti-phlogistic* treatment, in so far as it relates to bleeding and purging; and I can not conceive a case (so depressing as influenza is known to be) that would require any such heroic treatment; the safety of our patient depends on the judicious application of remedies such as are here named; and, therefore, I would warn the farmers against the use of *fleam* and *cathartic* in the treatment of the prevailing influenza. Yet, after all, the very best treatment may fail in restoring a patient. We require aid in the form of pure air, suitable diet and good nursing; failing in the latter important adjuncts, our treatment avails but little.

The reader will probably perceive that the above disease, like many others to which domestic animals are subject, requires professional skill, consequently the farmers should use their means and influence for the purpose of having a properly qualified veterinary surgeon in their several localities. We are now in possession of the long needed facilities for imparting a thorough course of instruction to all who knock at the door of veterinary science. We have an incorporated institution in this city, and are in possession of men and facilities to impart to the aspirant for veterinary honors as practical an education as can be obtained elsewhere.

HOW (NOT) TO RAISE A CROP OF CORN.

If every body's fields were as prolific for corn raising as every body's toes, what would our profession be worth? We try to aid our readers in getting as large crops of corn as may be. Dr. Hall in his Journal of Health, is doing just the other thing. Hear him: Never let anything harder than your finger nail ever touch a corn; paring it as certainly makes it take deeper root, as cutting a weed off at the surface. The worst kind of corns are controlable, as follows: Soak the feet in quite warm water before going to bed, then rub on the corn with your finger for several minutes, some common sweet oil. Do this every night, and every morning repeat this rubbing in of oil with the finger; bind on the toe during the day, two or three thicknesses of buckskin, with a hole in the center to receive the corn; in less than a week, in ordinary cases, if the corn does not fall out, you can pinch it out with the finger nail; and weeks, and sometimes months will pass away, before you will be reminded that you had a corn, when you can repeat the process. Corns, like consumption, are never cured, but may be indefinitely postponed. The oil and soaking softens and loosens the corn, while the buckskin protects it from pressure, which makes it, perhaps, to be pushed out, by the under growth of the parts.

For the American Agriculturist.

WHY DON'T WE SET OUT PEAR TREES?

To us Yankees—and I might as well include all the rest—there is one great, and I fear, insurmountable obstacle to extensive fruit raising; and that is, we are decidedly too fast—we can not wait for returns—the labor of to-day must be settled for to-morrow. Too many of us prefer five per cent next week, to a hundred per cent next year; notwithstanding full and continual illustrations of the benefit of a contrary course. The hired laborer employed in tilling corn, and recieving his wages at night, is not paid for all that his labor adds to the value of the farmers' products. Again, the farmer waits a little longer for *his* returns, and by so doing pockets a larger profit; but yet, *he* must have his returns at least annually; to wait longer would be putting off pay for labor to a period not to be thought of—to bestow labor in setting fruit trees, and wait for returns, is too often absolutely out of the question. The profits of the better kinds of fruit raising, has lately been so clearly demonstrated, especially with trees already in bearing, where the gathering and selling constitute nearly all the labor, and the thing seems so much like clear gain, that a few as exceptions, are induced to try it, and now and then an orchard of *apples* is set. Why did they not set pears? One barrel of *good* pears is worth in market a half a dozen barrels of apples, and an acre can be made to produce about as many of the former as the latter! The reason is found in the slow growth of the pear-tree, the can't afford to wait—quick returns and small profit! Suppose there is an inducement to set pears, how many are procuring dwarfs, (fit only to occupy a few corners of the garden) for no other reason, than their early bearing will make a small return in a few years, while standards would be longer coming to maturity, but certain to surpass them in the end. No matter if each dwarf in the beginning costs as much as a standard, and three times the number is required for an acre, and the cultivation and care multiplied ten fold, we can not wait—let us have the profit quickly.

But seriously, this matter of fruit raising is well worthy of careful consideration. It is better to set apples rather than nothing. Let us look a little further at the pear tree of slower growth. Did the reader ever estimate the value of an acre of good sized standard trees, producing annually, say, two barrels from each tree, of some of the leading varieties, such as sell in market for six dollars the barrel, (many kinds sell for double or treble that sum)? An acre would contain one hundred trees, twenty feet apart each way. At two barrels per tree, you have $1,200, as the produce of one acre! Does this seem too much? Take half the amount per tree, a very moderate yield, and you have a crop with just a little more than any crop of wheat ever harvested! The labor is no more—not as much annually, as for a crop of wheat. Another very satisfactory feature with pears is, the trees are perfectly willing and always ready to do the same thing, and a little more for you, again, next year.

"All this is very well, very satisfactory, and all that, if we only had the trees, but they grew too slowly to suit our ideas of hastening to be rich."

I admit there are some few farmers in such circumstances that they can not wait a long time for returns for labor; yet there are thousands of others, who are toiling, not for a competence, but to secure a legacy for children, in dollars and cents. How much better for such to invest a trifle for this kind of permanent stock; a thousand trees in twenty five years would be a fortune to a man of small pretensions!

Now to obtain trees of most value at the end of twenty or twenty-five years, I would recommend a very singular course for our fast men; it is not probable they will try it, yet the hint may be worth something to a slower class. Set out the natural fruit, and let the trees make wood and nothing else for twelve or fifteen years. Large spreading trees would be the result, and they could then be changed, by grafts of the right sort, set in the limbs, and in three years would be bearing fruit in quantities to make up for waiting. Fowls, while laying eggs *abundantly*, can not be expected to raise chickens at the same time—so trees that produce much fruit can not make much wood while bearing, and hence the advantage of natural fruit for a rapid growth. Such trees are less liable to disease, and seldom disposed to bear young. If fruit should appear, there would be no hesitancy in removing it. But should we attempt to get a large tree speedily, by taking one already grafted, a certain failure might be predicted. The Seckel, and many others, grow provokingly slow. To think that we will remove the fruit from such a tree to promote a growth of wood for even one year, let alone a series of years, is perfect nonsense. Why most of us would be watching for the first opening flower bud. Every swelling germ would be carefully noted, and if the delicate little twig was not likely to sustain its extra load, why, tie it up, rather than remove one when to leave a tenth part would be too many. No! don't think of our waiting any longer than necessary for this first crop to mature, that is long enough; we are anxious for the golden tinge, or blush-cheek to pronounce it ready.

We are all selfish; the fruits of our own labor we wish to enjoy; life is uncertain, and we may never realize the good we do—expectation so far in the future does not suit, even should it be the most profitable. Then let me urge the adoption of the next best course, *viz.*, set out grafted standards wherever you have room, instead of dwarfs, they will make a moderate return very soon, and be continually on the increase. As for a surplus of the better sorts, some of our wisest fruit growers have decided *that* out of the question.

Of the varieties best to cultivate, those will be pretty well posted who take and *read* one or more agricultural journals, together with some of our works on fruit culture. Whoever is without such helps to assist him in these matters, in this day, is certainly to be pitied, as he can never realize the *loss* of *saving* the price of his paper, (a dollar or two annually,) which might have instructed him how to make or save a hundred.

I have only endeavored to show here the value of the pear as a maket article, and left out of sight the satisfaction of being able to feast our families and friends, at any time from July to April, with a delicacy not yet commanded by one farmer in ten thousand. —M. Q., St. Johnsville, N. Y.

For the American Agriculturist

IMPROVEMENT OF NATURAL FRUIT.

Within the last few years, considerable has been said in agricultural journals, upon the necessity, and profitableness of an increased attention to the cultivation of fruit. Tens of thousands of trees have been sent out, by nurserymen in different parts of the country, many of which, probably, through neglect will disappoint the purchaser, while others for many years will continue to yield an abundant and satisfactory harvest. But few persons in planting fruit trees now, set other than what they suppose to be the best of improved varieties. This was not to the same extent so twenty or even ten years ago; the result is, there are many fruit trees occupying valuable ground, bearing but little better than worthless varieties of fruit. Shall these trees be cut down and other and better varieties planted in their stead, or can they with but little trouble and in less time, be made to produce fruit of the best quality? If the trees are not too old, and are in a reasonably healthy condition, they can be made, in two or three years, to produce any desired varieties of fruit. Within the last few years very many orchards of native varieties of apples have been changed by grafting. So extensive has been the demand for the grafter's saw and knife, that very many persons have given their whole attention to the business, during the appropriate season of the year. It has been estimated that from this small county alone, at least *three hundred* persons go annually to almost every State in the Union to engage in grafting. At prices, varying from *four* to *twelve* cents per scion, handsome properties have been made by many; but we regret to say that, in a few instances, dishonorable men have introduced varieties no better than the native ones they professed to change, to the no small vexation and disappointment of the owner of the mutilated trees.

He who has trees that he wishes to have changed by grafting, should procure the scions of such varieties as he wishes to cultivate, and then either set them himself, or if he chooses, engage a good grafter to do it for him. The process of grafting apples and pears successfully, is so simple and so frequently described, that we offer no suggestion. We commenced this article with the design of offering a few hints upon the feasibility of changing the tops of cherry, plum, and peach trees. There are thousands of persons who have never seen cherries, other than the common red or black varieties; plums, other than the house plum, or at least the common blue variety; or peaches, other than such as seedling trees produces. Such persons frequently have fruit trees in abundance, of the kinds just mentioned, which if they would, they might easily change into any varieties desired. There is, ordinarily, in grafting plum or cherry trees, but little risk of failure, if done at the proper time and in the proper manner. The principal secret of success is, to *graft early*, before the sap starts to any considerable amount. Failure is almost certain if the buds have swollen much. They may be set late in February or early in March, usually with satisfactory results. The time of course will vary with the season and latitude. One cause of failure, in grafting the fruits under consideration is, the bark is apt to curl on the cleft stump, or recede from the scion, in which case failure is certain. This can be prevented by winding the stump the length of the cleft, after waxing as usual, with old cotton cloth. This should be slit open in due time to prevent its acting as a ligature.

Of peach trees, probably more than one half in the country are seedling varieties, in the main producing fruit useable only in the absence of better varieties. It has been supposed that bearing trees could not readily have their tops changed to any desired varieties. But this is a mistake; nothing is easier, and tops as good as the original, can usually be had in three years. We have successfully grafted the peach in the usual manner of cleft grafting, by filling the cleft, after setting the scions, with *melted wax*, and winding the stump with waxed cloth. We prefer, however, to cut away the principal part of the top in the spring and new and thrifty shoots will be thrown out in abundance. A selection from these can be made, with reference to a well proportioned top, and budded in the fall; two years from the time of budding, a new, healthy, and well proportioned top may be had. We have changed the tops of peach trees repeatedly in this way, and not only improved the kind of fruit, but given to trees of considerable age nearly the vigor and productiveness of early maturity.—O. C. Gibbs, M. D., Perry, Lake Co., Ohio.

NEW BOOKS, MAGAZINES, &c.

From Messrs. C. M. Saxton & Co., of this city, the public are continually receiving new books upon the different branches of soil culture (see their list of late works in the advertising columns). We have before us a book issued by them entitled "The Cranberry and its Culture," with a description of the Best Varieties, by B. Eastwood. This is a neat volume of 120 pages (price 50 cents) containing a variety of information, upon the best soils and locations for "Cranberry Patches"; the varieties best adapted to general and special cultivation; method of preparing the soil and setting the plants, the treatment of the plants at the different stages of growth; harvesting and marketing, &c. We have watched the Cranberry markets of this city pretty closely during the past season. The wholesale price we have quoted for several months past at $12 to $15 per bbl., for a fair article, and we have seen several barrels of superior quality sold as high as $16 to $18 per bbl. From what we know of the cost of raising, we do not see why they can not be profitably produced at less than half these rates. There is little fear of a glut in the market, at least for some years to come. The work referred to above is the first of its kind in the country, and we advise farmers generally to secure a copy, and look into the subject with a view of ascertaining whether it will not be worth their while to try a "Cranberry Patch." The book contains a considerable number of illustrations of the different varieties of the plant, and at the different stages of growth. Those preparing to cultivate the cranberry should not only provide themselves with this book, but also refer to a series of articles on the same subject in the first numbers of Vol. XII of the American Agriculturist.

◆

From Carleton & Phillips, 200 Mulberry st., we have the National Magazine, and Ladies' Repository. The National ($2 per year) is perhaps the cheapest magazine in the world when the value of the matter and the number of well executed engravings are taken into account. The February number (received after we went to press) contains the third quarterly paper entitled "Reviews Extraordinary," which is of itself worth the price of a year's subscription. Of the Ladies Repository ($2 per year), we can only repeat what we have before said, that *we* consider it the best magazine published which claims to be a *Ladies'* periodical. Its mechanical execution is of the first class, while its articles are of a higher order, pleasing and instructive, and such as any parent may safely put into the hands of a daughter.

◆

We are indebted to Messrs. Dix & Edwards, 321 Broadway, for a number of their publications, among which are the following:

Putnam's Magazine, which every body recognizes as one of the foremost of our American Monthly Magazines, filled with standard original articles from the leading writers of the country. Terms $3 a year.

The School Fellow.—An Illustrated Magazine for Boys and Girls, issued monthy in beautiful and attractive style. $1 per annum. We would be glad to see every boy and girl supplied with this magazine, for it is one of the best, if not the best of its kind in the country.

◆

A Journey in the Seaboard Slave States, by Frederick Law Olmstead, author of "Walks and Talks of an American Farmer in England." 1 vol., 12 mo., 725 pages, with wood cuts. Price $1 50. We have not yet found time to read this work. Our cotemporary, the Southern Cultivator, predicts that this book will have "greater influence on the voters than Uncle Tom's Cabin had." From what we know of the author, we think the book will be read with equal interest by many thousands of persons both south and north, though doubtless with different conclusions as to its character

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

American Agriculturist Office,
New-York, Feb. 29, 1856.

The month closing to-day has been almost unparalleled during the present century for the nearly complete obstruction of business by the closing of harbors, lakes and rivers, and the blockading of railroads, country roads, and the streets of cities. We reside in Flushing, twelve miles distant from the city, and usually reach our home by taking a steamboat to Hunter's Point, four miles up the River or Sound, on the east side of the city, and thence by the Flushing Railroad; but it is just eight weeks to-day since our boat has been stopped by ice, a thing which has never happened before within the memory of the "oldest inhabitant," and is not likely to again during our natural life, we sincerely hope. We have *felt* the inconvenience of "the weather."

The transactions in Breadstuffs have been limited. The prospect of peace in Europe, and the lower prices there have affected them here materially. Flour has gone down since our last summary (Jan. 26) $1.50 to $2 per bbl., and wheat is 30 to 50 cents per bushel lower. We can see little hope of higher prices during the year, and farmers will be better off than we fear they will, if there is not a still greater decline.

Those who were so free to blame us for urging grain raisers to sell last fall by all means, and those who were so ready to accuse us of being in the interest of speculators, will probably tell a different story now.

We find upon our note-book, records of sales of Breadstuffs for 30 business days ending to-day: of Flour, 276,650 barrels; of Wheat, 141,200 bushels; of Corn, 606,300 bushels; of Rye, 230,000 bushels; and of Barley, 36,300 bushels. Our last report, (Jan. 26) for 25 business days gave of Flour, 320,250 bbls.; of Wheat, 314,200 bushels; of Corn, 759,500 bushels; of Rye, 200,700 bushels; and of Barley, 8,000 bushels; showing a considerable falling off during the past month in sales of Flour, Wheat and Corn, and an increase in Rye and Barley.

The following figures show the present price of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

		Jan. 26.	Feb. 29.
Flour—Ordinary State		$8 00@ 8 12	$6 62@ 6 75
Mixed Western		8 12@ 8 25	6 62@ 6 75
Favorite and Ex. State		8 18@ 8 31	6 87@ 7 50
Extra Genesee		9 00@11 25	8 37@10 50
Wheat—Canada White		2 05@ 2 20	1 75@ 1 90
Southern White		2 10@	1 75@ 2 05
Southern Red		1 95@ 2 00	1 45@ 1 70
Western Red		1 75@ 1 80	1 25@ 1 55
Corn—Western Mixed		90@ 93	72@ 75
New Yellow and White		83@ 91	73@ 75
Rye		1 29@ 1 31	1 10@ 1 15
Barley		1 18@ 1 25	1 12@ 1 23
Oats—Western		49@ 51	30@ 46
Cotton—Middling		9@ 9¼	10¼@ 10¾
Rice	ꝑ 100℔s	4 87@ 5 50	4 25@ 5 12
Pork—Mess	ꝑ bbl.	14 50@15 50	15 75@16 25
Dressed Hogs	ꝑ ℔.	7¼@ 7¾	7½@ 8¼
Lard, in bbls	ꝑ ℔.	11@ 11½	10½@ 11
Butter—Western	ꝑ ℔.	20@ 24	17@ 24
State	ꝑ ℔.	25@ 34	24@ 28
Potatoes—Carters	ꝑ bbl.	1 62@ 1 75	1 75@ 1 88
Mercers	ꝑ bbl.	2 00@ 2 12	2 00@ 2 12
Onions—Reds	ꝑ bbl.	1 62@ 1 75	1 88@ 2 00
White	ꝑ bbl.	2 25@ 2 37	2 25@ 2 75
Apples	ꝑ bbl.	1 75@ 2 50	1 75@ 2 75

Beef cattle have been poor (mostly oxen from near by) and high until this week, when a large supply for the season (3,803) of good animals came in, and prices receded. We quote Premium cattle 12c.a14c. per lb. net

or dressed weight; First quality 10c.a11½c.; Medium quality 9a10c.; Poor quality, 8c.a 8½c.; Poorest quality 7c.a8c.; General selling prices 9c.a10½c. Average of all sales about 9¾c.a10c.

THE WEATHER.—As Stated above, the weather the past and preceeding month, has been remarkable for its almost unexampled and continued severity. The ground is still covered with snow and has been since Christmas. The streets of this city present a curious spectacle. A majority of them are filled with a solid mass of ice and snow from one to three feet above the side walks. This is so gullied and uneven as to present in a great measure the use of any kind of vehicles.

Our notes read: Jan. 28th to Feb. 1st, weather more moderate; a little thawing in the sun, with a slight snow on 31st. Feb. 2d, fine snow, partly melting as it fell; 3d 4th and 5th, clear and very cold; 6th, clear, pleasant, thawing in sun; 7th, snow, changing to sleet; 8th moderated; 9th, morning thawed a little, evening very cold; 10th, clear and cold, 11th and 12th, warmer and thawing some; 13th and 14th clear and very cold; 15th and 16th, warmer, wind south, misty, thawing a little; 17th cold; 18th and 19th very cold; 20th, moderated some; 21, 22 and 23, weather much moderated and snow diminishing quite fast; 24, 25, 26, 27, cold and chilly but thawing some on afternoons; 28th moderated but no thawing; 29, warm and thawing.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

Advertisements will be displayed in CAPITALS and leaded over as many lines space as are paid for.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

Advertisements amounting to $10—ten per cent discount.

Advertisements amounting to $20—twenty per cent discount.

By the column or half column, without further discount, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

FARMER WANTED IMMEDIATELY.—

A man who understands well the care of stock and general farming operations, may hear of an excellent situation by addressing L. COXE, at the Office of this paper, or calling here for his address. N. B—An American, English, or Scotch farmer desired. 110-11n13

SUPERB DOUBLE DAHLIAS.—We shall

offer this Spring our usual complete assortment, including among other New Prize sorts:

English Varieties.

BARON ALDERSON—Bright orange, tipped with white.
NIGGER—Dark maroon, the best dark flower yet produced.
RINGLEADER—Scarlet Crimson.

French and German Varieties.

BERNARD DE MENTHON—Saffron yellow.
HELOISE—Deep purplish rose on yellow ground.
LOUIS EBLING—Clear lilac.
INCARNATA ROSEA—Blush edged with rose.
MALVINA—Bright purplish rose.
QUASI-MODO—Rose tipped on buff ground.
SPOHR—Rosy purple on yellow ground

Beside many other new ones, and the most perfect and free blooming of previous years.

Young plants in pots will be ready for sending out on the 1st of May. Dry sound roots of the older fine sorts can be supplied at any time.

Descriptive Catalogue (No. 3) sent gratis.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
Mount Hope Nurseries,
March, 1856.—110a33 Rochester, N. Y.

TO FARMERS AND GARDENERS.—

The subscriber offers for sale a new and VERY EARLY Seedling Potato, of his own raising, which for productiveness, hardiness, early maturity, and fine table qualities, is believed to be superior to any other variety in cultivation. Being a white Potato, and larger and more productive than the "Early June," and quite as early, it will be found particularly valuable for the Market Gardener. From four years experience with this Potato under circumstances well calculated to test its comparative merits, the undersigned has no hesitation in recommending it to the public as a valuable variety.

PRICE—$4 per barrel, delivered at the Railroad Depot or Steamboat Landing at Hudson.

REFERENCES—S.K. Hogeboom and Wm. E. Miller, Esqr's., Claverack; or Edward Livingston, Esq., Hudson.

Address E. G. STUDLEY,
110—11n37 Claverack, Columbia Co., N. Y.

THE CHINESE YAM:

(DIOSCOREA BATATAS).

We can supply small sound tubers of this interesting new esculent. Price $6 per dozen. Sent by mail, prepaid, if ordered soon.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
Mount Hope Nurseries,
February, 1856.—110n36 Rochester, N. Y.

THE "BIG TREE" OF CALIFORNIA:

(SEQUOIA GIGANTEA.) of Torrey,
(WELLINGTONIA GIGANTEA,) of Lindley.

We shall offer, in April next, several thousand fine Plants, in Pots, of this wonderful Evergreen Tree, from seed procured from the celebrated "Grove of Big Trees," on the Sierra Nevada.

Being found at an elevation of more than 5,000 feet above the level of the sea, we have reason to believe it will prove hardy south of lat. 40°, and even farther north. It attains the amazing altitude of 300 feet. The branchlets are round and pendulous, like the "Thuya filiformis," with leaves of a grassy green color. The branches are dense and massive. It is of rapid growth, and the young plants are branchy like a Cedar. One-year-old Seedlings in Pots, $2 each, or $20 per dozen.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
Mount Hope Nurseries,
March, 1856.—110n35 Rochester, N. Y.

A WORD TO FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN.—

If you have butter, poultry, eggs, or any other articles of table use, which you will sell low for cash, please apply to the principal Express Agent in your neighborhood. Likely, we will put him in funds to buy of you if we can agree upon prices.

We are in want of half a tun of nice turkeys, chickens and geese, every week, at our Express Produce Store, No. 33 Broadway. A tun or two of first rate table butter, upon consignment, to sell to consumers would be very acceptable.

Commission for effecting sales, for cash, five per cent, and NO OTHER CHARGES WHATEVER.

A. L. STIMSON,
Agent for the Sale of Farmers' Produce, and the purchase of Goods ordered by Express, No. 33 Broadway, New-York.

REFERENCES—The American Express Company; Wells, Butterfield & Co.; the Adams Express Company; the National Express Company; Thompson & Co.'s Express; and Cheney, Fiske & Co.'s. 110tfn32

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of

Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

BEST No. 1 Peruvian GUANO.

BONE DUST, ground and sawings.

Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS;

FIELD and GARDEN SEEDS;
No. 1 PERUVIAN GUANO;
SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME:
CHARCOAL DUST; POUDRETTE: PLASTER for land purposes; BONE, fine and coarse, &c.

MAGIC CORN AND COB MILL.—This mill has improvements over all other corn mills, and requires less power. For sale at the North River Agricultural Warehouse. GRIFFING, BROTHER & CO.,
110—112n22 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

NEW AND VALUABLE STRAWBERRIES.

TROLLOPIS VICTORIA—One of the largest and handsomest Berries in cultivation, as hardy as our American sorts, and very productive.

TRIOMPH DE GAND—A new Belgian sort, of good size and flavor, and very productive.

LA REINE—A new French variety that promises well.

BICTON PINE—The largest and best White Strawberry in cultivation.

In addition to these we can furnish,

Ingram's Prince of Wales, Cole's Prolific, Comte de Flanders, and many others of high repute in Europe.

ALSO—Scott's Seedling, considered the best new American variety, and all leading popular sorts.

Priced Catalogues furnished gratis.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
Mount Hope Nurseries,
March, 1856.—110n34 Rochester, N. Y.

1000 TUNS OF DEBURG'S NO. 1 SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

We take pleasure in informing the Agricultural community that we are Sole Agents in the State of Pennsylvania for DEBURG'S Original and Genuine SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, warranted of superiority, the cheapest manure in the world. Farmers and Dealers supplied at low prices.

EXTRA QUALITY LAND PLASTER.

5,000 barrels Extra Quality Land Plaster, selected for its fertilizing qualities.
10,000 bushels of same in bulk.
10,000 barrels best quality Ordinary Land Plaster, equal to the best usually sold, at the low price of 20 cts. per bushel, or $1 10 cents per barrel, with a deduction for large lots.
25,000 bushels of same in bulk.
1,000 barrels Calcined Plaster.
1,000 barrels Casting Plaster.
500 barrels Dentist Plaster.
5,000 barrels Hydraulic Cement.
1,000 barrels True Roman Cement.

PERUVIAN GUANO, POUDRETTE, MEXICAN GUANO, GROUND CHARCOAL, &c.

FRENCH, RICHARDS & CO.

At the Steam Plaster Mills, junction of York-avenue and Callowhill-st, Philadelphia, Pa. 110—12n31

VALUABLE AND CHEAP PROPERTY

FOR SALE IN MORRISTOWN, N. J.

The subscriber offers his property for sale. The improvements are one new two-story House, with tin roof, containing seven rooms, beside garret and cellar the full size of the house.

There are nearly four acres of good clay ground, with a never-failing stream of water running through; located on the Washington Turnpike within three minutes walk of the Railroad depot. The garden is well stocked with Fruit Trees of the choicest varieties, particularly Pears. There is also a very valuable orchard of bearing Orange-Quince trees—nearly 100.

A rare opportunity for a cash purchaser. Title indisputable.
110tfn31 WM. DAY.

C. M. SAXTON & CO.'S AGRICULTURAL BOOK ROOMS, 140 Fulton-st., New-York.

OUR NEW BOOKS FOR MARCH.

We have just published the following important books, which are valuable additions to our large list of Agricultural works:

I.

Chorlton's Complete Grape Grower's Guide.

An illustrated Treatise on the Propagation and Cultivation of the Grape in the Vineyard, the Cold Grapery, the Forcing House and Retarding House; also on the Diseases of the Vine, their Prevention and Cure. Price 60 cts.

II.

The Cranberry and its Culture.

By B. Eastwood, of Dennis, Mass. Containing full instructions for the preparation of the ground, planting and cultivating the vines, as practised by the most successful cultivators; with plates illustrating the different varieties. Price 50 cts.

III.

Gardening for the South.

By W. N. White, of Athens, Ga. A very complete and practical work, embracing the Vegetable Garden, the Fruit Garden, the Flower Garden, and the Pleasure Grounds. Intended especially for the Southern States. Price $1 25.

IV.

The Strawberry Culture.

By R. G. Pardee. A new edition, revised, with many important additions: containing also Directions for the Cultivation of the Raspberry, Blackberry, Currant, Gooseberry and Grape. Price 60 cents.

V.

Persoz's Culture of the Vine.

A New Process for the Culture of the Vine, by Persoz, Professor to the Faculty of Sciences of Strasbourg; directing Professor of the School of Pharmacy of the same city. Translated by J. O. C. Barclay, Surgeon, U. S. N. Price 50 cts.

To be obtained of all Booksellers, or sent by us pre-paid to any part of the Union, on receipt of price.

Also Nearly Ready:

Boussingault's Rural Economy,	$1 25
Thompson on Food of Animals,	75
Richardson on the Dog,	50
The Dog and Gun,	50

MAPES'

NITROGENIZED SUPER-PHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THIS NEW FERTILIZER will now be furnished at the same price as the Improved Super-phosphate of Lime, with increased quantities of nitrogenous matters, being much stronger than Peruvian Guano, and for cold or very poor soils, is the best manure known. For IMPROVED RESULTS, it surpasses all others, and in LASTING POWER exceeds Guano. For sale in bags of 160 lbs. each, at 2½ cts. per pound.

110-11n25 FRED'K McCREADY, 143 Fulton-st., N. Y.

ATKINS' AUTOMATON:

OR,

SELF-RAKING REAPER AND MOWER,

BEST MACHINE IN USE.

1 (the first) used in 1852.
40 used successfully in 1853.
300 in twenty different States in 1854.
1200 in all parts of the Union in 1855.
3000 building for the harvest of 1856.

THERE ARE SIX GOOD REASONS for this unparalleled increase and great popularity: 1st. It is strong and reliable, and easily managed. 2d. It saves the hard labor of Raking. 3d. It saves at least another hand in binding. 4th. It saves shattering by the careful handling in raking; besides, the straw being laid straight, it is well secured in the sheaf, and does not drop in the after handling, and the heads are not exposed in the stack, so that the GRAIN SAVING even exceeds the LABOR SAVING. 5th. It is a good Mower, being one of the best convertible machines in use. 6th. It has a knife that does not choke.

Its other excellencies, too numerous to mention here, are fairly given in the circulars. Its intrinsic worth is also attested by the award (mostly in only 3 years) of

OVER 70 FIRST PREMIUMS!

PRICE.—Reaper and Mower, $200—$75 on its receipt, $75 first September, and $50 first December. Price of Self-Raking Reaper only $175. Considerable saving in freight to those at a distance who order prior to 1st March; also liberal discount for advance payment.

To secure a Machine, order immediately. Though so little known the past season, and none ready for delivery till 1st May, yet not two-thirds the customers could be supplied. The reputation of the machine is now widely established, so that THREE THOUSAND will not as nearly supply the demand as twelve hundred did last year, and we shall also be selling four months earlier.

☞ Order early, if you would not be disappointed.

Pamphlets giving IMPARTIALLY the opinions of Farmers, together with orders, notes, &c., mailed to applicants, and prepaid.

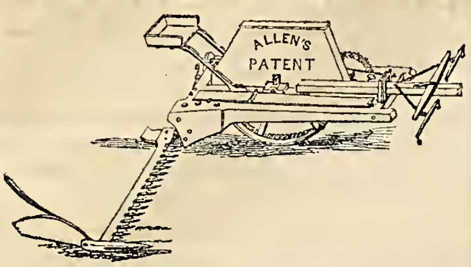
☞ Write to us at Chicago, Ill.; Dayton, Ohio, or Baltimore, Md., whichever is nearest to you.

J. S. WRIGHT & CO.
"Prairie Farmer" Works, Chicago, Feb. 20, 1856, 110-11n27

GRENOBLE HOSE—A superior Hose, manufactured of the finest Hemp—a cheap and excellent substitute for Leather and Gutta Percha. It is especially recommended to Planters, Nurserymen, Fire Companies, Steamboats, Manufactories, Dwellings, &c. It costs less than half the price of leather, is lighter, stands as much pressure, is as durable, and is not subjected for its preservation to the expense of oiling or greasing, neither is it injured by frost.

For sale and orders for importation received in sizes from 1 to 7 inches in diameter, by CHARLES LENZMANN, 54 Cedar-st., New-York, where certificates of its superior qualities can be examined, from Alfred Carson, Esq., Chief Engineer of the New-York Fire Department; from James McFarlan, Esq., Chief Engineer of the Union Ferry Company, and also from official authorities of some of the large cities of Europe. 110-11n24

THE BEST MOWING MACHINE.



ALLEN'S

PATENT IMPROVED

MOWING MACHINE,

strong, simple in construction, not liable to get out of order,

COMPACT, LIGHT, EASY OF DRAUGHT,

and may be worked with a

slow gait by horses or oxen.

No clogging of knives.

Works well on rough land—side'hills—salt and fresh meadows, &c., and in any kind of lodged grass and clover.

Manufactured at the Agricultural Implement Manufaetory and for sale at the Warehouse of R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York

I publish a few out of more than one hundred testimonials of similar import in my possession, from well known and highly respectable farmers who have used the machine the past season:

R. L. ALLEN, Dear Sir—I have used your Mowing Machines the past season; it did its work well, and is as near perfect as any thing I can imagine. My clover was very heavy—over three tuns to the acre—very badly down and matted. I tried all I could to break the machine, with fair usage, without success. It needed no repair, was not out of order, and is now as good as the day I purchased it. Yours respectfully,
Astoria, Queens Co., N. Y., Oct. 17, 1855. J. K. HERRICK.

The Mowing Machine (Allen's patent) I purchased of you last summer, has given me much satisfaction, both for its saving of labor and its easy working and convenient arrangement. Its operation is admirable. I worked it with oxen; their walk is fast enough to do the work of six or eight men. In one hour we cut about an acre. The stouter the grass, the better; and its being lodged makes no difference. One great recommendation is, that the machine did not get out of order during the whole season, except the breaking of one tooth by striking a stump. The contrast, in this respect, with other machines in my neighborhood—which were continually being sent to the blacksmith's shop, or else standing idle in the field—was very agreeable. It gives me pleasure to endorse yours as the BEST MACHINE.
Croton Falls. N. Y., Oct. 18, 1855. T. R. LEE.

I must say your mower is superior in its operation to either of the favorite mowers of last season, and I have seen no other that comes up to it. As to the quantity of grass it will cut, be assured 'twill cut enough, and well enough, to satisfy any man.
Stockport, N. Y., Oct. 24, 1855. R. JUDSON.

FLOWER SEEDS.—The attention of amateurs is invited to the following—of very finest qualities:

			PER PACKET.
New Pæony flowered German Asters			25 cts.
New Perfection	do.	do.	25
New very Dwarf	do.	do.	12½
New Globe	do.	do.	12½
New Flat flowered	do.	do.	12½
New large-flowered German ten-weeks stocks			12½
New wall flower leaved	do.	do.	12½
New Dwarf	do.	do.	12½
New Pæony flowered Poppy			12½
New large flowered German Scabius			12½
New Superb Antirrhinum			12½
New Pure White Collinsia			25
New Pure White Godetia			25
New Orange Portulaca			12½
New Phlox Drummondii (Queen Victoria)			12½
Whitlavia grandiflora			25
Eschscholtzia tenuifolia			25
Extra fine White Picotee—from named flowers			50
Extra fine Yellow Picotee—from named flowers			50
Extra fine Flake Carnation			50
Camellia Japonica			25
Orange Globe Amaranthus			6¼
New Dwarf Calceolaria			50
New Superb Spotted Calceolaria			50
New Dwarf Cineraria			50
Gaura Lindheimeria			12½
Lindheimeria Texana			25
Nierembergia Calycina			25

With nearly one thousand others, for which see our Descriptive Catalogue of Flower Seeds for 1856—sent to applicants inclosing a stamp.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
Seedsmen, &c,
110—11n30 No. 15 John-st., New-York.

MAPES' SUPER-PHOSHATE of LIME, The best fertilizer known.

Mapes' Nitrogenized Super-phosphate of Lime, 2½ cts. per lb.
Do. Improved do. do. do. 2⅓ do. do.
Do. No. 1 do. do. do. 2¼ do. do.
In sacks of 160 lbs. each. FRED. McCREADY,
110—11n26 143 Fulton-st., N. Y.

GARDEN, FIELD and FLOWER SEEDS.—A large supply of the most desirable varieties of Garden Seeds; a choice and good supply of Flower Seeds; and Grass Seeds of all kinds. Field Seeds—Wheat, Oats, Corn, Barley, &c.

We take great care to have all our seeds fresh and best of their kinds, and offer them for sale at wholesale or retail on most favorable terms. R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

FAWSLEY PARK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
VERY IMPORTANT SALE OF FIRST-CLASS SHORT-HORNED CATTLE, HORSES, SHEEP, PIGS, &C.

MR. STRATFORD has the satisfaction of announcing to the Agricultural World that he is instructed by Sir Charles Knightly, Bart., to offer for Sale by Auction, without the slightest reserve, on Tuesday, the 3d of APRIL next, the entire and far-famed Fawsley Herd of first-class SHORT-HORNS, consisting of upwards of 70 head of Bulls, Cows, and Heifers, which, for purity of breeding, can not be excelled. Most of the young stock are by the Earl of Dublin (10178) and Duke of Cambridge (12742). The Cows and Heifers are principally served by the latter Bull, a son of "Grand Duke," and purely descended from the unrivaled Kirklevington Herd On the following day will be sold the Cart Horses, Sheep, Pigs, Implements, &c.; the Farms being Let.

Catalogues, with pedigrees and other particulars, will be issued in due time, and announced in future advertisements.
London, 13 Euston-square, Feb. 4, 1856. 110n28

NEW CHINESE or JAPAN POTATO—DIOSCOREA BATATAS.—Orders received and will be filled in rotation, by the subscribers, for this new esculent, at $3 per dozen, or $20 per 100 tubers, properly packed for transport to any part of the Union. Printed description, with directions for culture, furnished to purchasers, or to applicants inclosing a stamp. J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
Seedsmen, &c.,
—110n29 No. 15 John-st., New-York.

EVERGREEN TREES.

ADAMS & MORRILL, Portland, Maine, will furnish and forward to all parts of the United States, ARBOR VITÆ, BALSAM FIR, SPRUCE, PINE, HEMLOCK, LARCH, SUGAR MAPLE, and other Forest Trees, at their usual prices. Priced lists sent to applicants.

ALSO,

8,000 Houghton's American Gooseberry Plants. 109—tfn7

NEW-ROCHELLE OR LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—The subscribers having devoted much attention to the cultivation of this new species of Blackberry for a number of years, have now the largest area of ground in cultivation of any in the country. Their Nursery, while in bearing, has been visited by thousands of persons from all parts of the States, and by all pronounced to be the "ne plus ultra."

Orders will be filled from our Grounds with great pleasure, at the following prices: One half-dozen, $2 50; One dozen, $5 00 Fifty, $12 50, and One Hundred, $25.
GEO. SEYMOUR & CO.
South-Norwalk, Conn., Jan. 20, 1850. 109—112n2

TO FARMERS and MARKET GARDENERS who are desirous of making permanent improvements to their lands at very low rates.

THE LODI MANUFACTURING CO., having the exclusive right for five years to the contents of all the Privies of the City of New-York, are prepared to furnish to the Farmers at the docks or nearest landing places to their farms, Night-Soil, as received from the night-scavengers, at from 10 to 18 cents per bushel, according to distance and trouble—or delivered into the farmers' wagons, or tubs will be furnished, in which it can be carried on to the land.

This can be done without offense, and after lying upon the ground for two days, it can be plowed under without trouble.

This is one of the most powerful, and altogether the CHEAPEST Manure now offered for sale.

Apply to THE LODI MANUFATURING CO,
109—00n18 No. 60 Courtland-st., New-York.

BONE

Superphosphate of Lime.

L. S. HOYT'S SUPERPHOSPHATE of LIME, as a TOP-DRESSING, applied early in the Spring, upon Grain and Grass lands, will increase the yield so much as to insure its free use in this way, as well as its general application in the usual way to all the various crops where a SAFE, ACTIVE and LASTING Fertilizer is required.

A Pamphlet descriptive of my SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, containing analyses, certificates, &c., may be had gratis, on application to L. S. HOYT,
194 Water-st., New-York.

SHORT HORNS.—Short Horned Cows, Heifers and Bulls for sale. Address

JAMES W. WILKIN,
Wilkin's Villa, (near Montgomery,)
105-110n1233 Orange County, N. Y.

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York, offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf PEAR, CHERRIES, PEACHES, PLUMS, and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—116

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasonable price. R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. N.Y.

CHOICE POULTRY.—SEED POTATOES.—The subscriber has for sale ASIATIC, SEABRIGHT BANTAMS and GAME FOWLS, at very reasonable rates—all warranted PURE.

I can also furnish the superior CLINTON POTATOES at $1 per peck. All orders promptly attended to.

WM. FULMER,
109—112n6 Stowartsville, N. J.

CRANBERRY PLANTS of the Bell variety are best adapted to general culture—they bear large crops on poor, wet and boggy land, where nothing else will grow. UPLAND CRANBERRY PLANTS, which grow on poor, hill-side, and cold, barren soils, bear enormous crops of small red berries—superior in flavor to Low-land Berries.

ALSO,

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY VINES.

Circulars relating to price, culture, soil, &c., will be forwarded to applicants by inclosing a letter-stamp to

F. TROWBRIDGE,
Dealer in Trees, Plants, Roses, Vines, &c.
109—11n1 New-Haven, Conn.

ISABELLA AND CATAWBA GRAPE VINES, of proper age for forming Vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fifteen years has conferred on the Croton Point Vineyards, are offered to the public. Those who may purchase will receive such instructions for four years, as will enable them to cultivate the Grape with entire success provided their locality is not too far north.

All communications addressed to R. T. UNDERHILL, M. D., New-York, or Croton Point, Westchester County, N. Y., will receive attention.

The additional experience of three past seasons gives him full assurance that, by improved cultivation, pruning, &c., a crop of good fruit can be obtained every year, in most of the Northern, all of the Middle, Western and Southern States.

N. B.—To those who take sufficient to plant six acres, as he directs, he will, when they commence bearing, furnish the owner with one of his Vinedressers, whom he has instructed in his mode of cultivation, and he will do all the labor of the vineyard, and insure the most perfect success. The only charge, a reasonable compensation for the labor.

Also, APPLE-QUINCE TREES, (which are sometimes called the Orange Quince,) for sale as above.

109—11n2 R. T. U.

TO FARMERS AND GARDENERS.—Your attention is called to the Manures manufactured by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY from the contents of the sinks and privies of New-York city, and free from offensive odor, called

POUDRETTE AND TAFEU.

Poudrette is composed of two-thirds night soil and one-third decomposed vegetable fiber. Tafeu is composed of three-fourths night soil and one-fourth No. 1 Peruvian Guano

These manures are cheaper and better adapted for raising Corn, Garden Vegetables and Grass, than any other in market. Can be put in contact with the seed without injury, and causes Corn and seeds to come up sooner, ripen two weeks earlier, and yield one-third more than other manures, and is a SURE PREVENTIVE of the Cut Worm.

Two bbls. Poudrette or 100 lbs Tafeu, will manure an acre of Corn in the hill. Tafeu 1¾ cents per pound. Poudrette $2 per barrel, or $1 50 for any quantity over seven barrels, delivered on board vessel or railroad free from any charge for package or cartage. A pamphlet, containing every information, sent, post-paid, to any one sending their address to

THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
109—00n17 No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers.

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

HARROWS; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

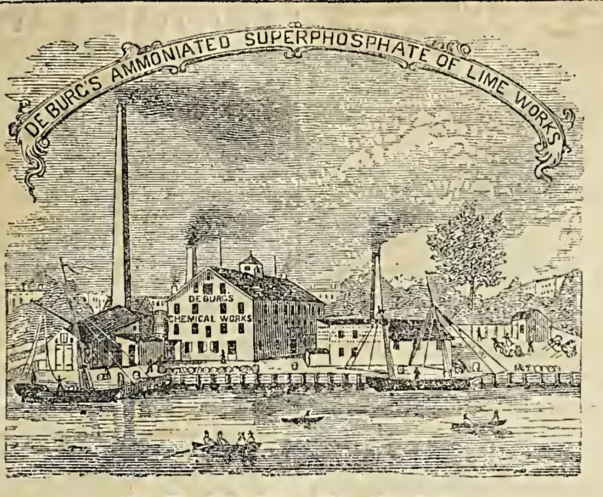
FIELD and Garden Seeds.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, &c.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— . 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.


DE BURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DEBURGS
CHEMICAL WORKS

DeBURG'S

AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my prsposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to statethat many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feb 1st(orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market, for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City, for one dollar per tun.

CASH PRICE, $45 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

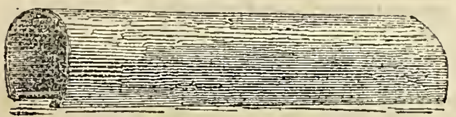
C. B. DEBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I.
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Forry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.
109—116n

ALBANY TILE WORRS,

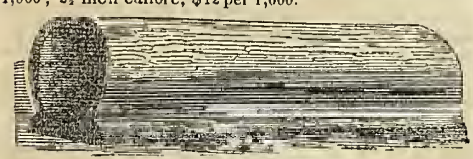
Corner of Patroon and Knox-sts., Albany, N. Y.

THE SUBSCRIBERS, being the most extensive manufacturers of DRAINING TILE in the United States, have on hand, in large or small quantities, for Land Draining, the following descriptions, warranted superior to any made in this country, hard burned, and over one foot in length. On orders for 10,000 or more, a small discount will be made.



HORSE SHOE TILE.

4½ inch calibre, $18 per 1,000; 3½ inch calibre, $15 per 1,000; 2½ inch calibre, $12 per 1,000.



SOLE TILE, OR PIPE.

3 inch calibre	$18 per 1,000
2 inch calibre	12 per 1,000

Also on hand 8 inch Horse Shoe Tile for large drains, $8 per 100—5½ inch, $40 per 1,000. Sole Tile, 4 inch calibre, for sink drains, $40 per 1,000—6 inch caliber Octagon Pipe, $20 per 100—Cornice Brick, of the pattern used in the City of Washington, also on hand.

Orders respectfully solicited. Cartage free.

C. & W. M'CAMMON,
late BABCOCK & VAN VECHTEN,
Feb. 21—110—11n38 Albany, N. Y.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water st., New-York.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscribor now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,

C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—116o1212N14 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.
GREATLY ENLARGED STOCKS.

P-iccs Reduced for Autumn and Spring Sales.

Sold only in packages of four sizes, as follows:

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st, New-York,
Or at New-Rochelle,
105tfn1235N19 Westchester County, N. Y.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78–130

LARGE LOP-EARED RABBITS.—The above Rabbits for sale, in pairs or single. They are beautifully marked of various colors, and are pure and well bred.

Address, S. W. RODMAN, Boston, Mass.,
1247n108– 9 Or the Editor of this Paper.

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful sciences. Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No. 119 Washington-st., Boston. Sample copies sent when ordered.

NEW-ROCHELLE (LAWTON) BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants for sale, on liberal terms, by the subscriber,

SIMEON LESTER,
109—111n5 New-Rochelle, Westchester Co., N. Y.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

RUSSIAN FOWLS.—A few pairs of very choice Fowls of this breed may be obtained by applying to the subscriber immediately. H. L. HYDE,
1850n108—11N12 Mystic, Ct.

WYANDOT PROLIFIC CORN FOR SALE.—The greatest agricultural wonder of the age.—Plant only one kernel, in hills four feet apart, at the north, and five to six at the south—yield 150 bushels per acre.

For circulars giving full particulars, address

J. C. THOMPSON.
108—11n1244N13 Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,
(QUEENS PATENT,)

THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—116n1190N8

BAGS.—NOYES & WHITTLESEY, No. 80 Water-st., (near Old Slip,) New-York,

Manufacture at the shortest notice, and keep for sale, every description and quality of GRAIN, FEED, FLOUR, SALT GUANO, COFFEE, SPICE, HAM, and GUNNY BAGS.

Their facilities enable them to offer at lower rates, than any other establishment in the city.

Particular attention paid to PRINTING and MAKING flour and salt SACKS.

☞ We can make and furnish from 10,000 to 20,000 BAGS per day. 97—109n1214

FISH GUANO.—The NARRAGANSETT MANUFACTUING COMPANY, of Providence, R. I., are now prepared to execute orders for their FISH GUANO. They have prepared their Guano after two methods. One by chemically treating, cooking and then drying and grinding the fish to a powder. This is put in bags and sold at $45 per tun. The other variety is prepared as above (with the exception of drying and grinding), and is then combined with an absorbant which is in itself a valuable fertilizer, and sold at two dollars per bbl. containing about 200 lbs. The compost is of great strength, and must be a very efficient fertilizer, as it is composed in great part of simple flesh and bones of fish.

Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, has made an analysis of the Powder, and says:

"It is similar to the Peruvian Guano in composition, with the exception that the ammonial matter is dried flesh, of fish, and not yet putrefied, so as to be ammoniacal. It will, however, produce ammonia by decomposition in the soil. One hundred grains of this manure, dried and finely pulverized, was submitted to analysis, with the following result:

ANALYSIS.

Ammonial matter (flesh or fish)	48.00
Phosphate of Lime	33 90
Carbonate of Lime	7.60
Sulphate of Lime	6.40
Potash of Soda	4.10
	100.00

Respectfully your obedient servant,
CHARLES T. JACKSON,
Assaser to the State of Massachusetts."

Dr. Jackson's opinion of our Guano is expressed in the following note:

Boston, March 9, 1855.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Esq.—Dear sir: In reply to your letter, I would state my entire confidence in the superiority of a properly prepared artificial guano, made from fishes, over that of the natural guano of birds, obtained from the coast of Peru.

It is obvious that more of the nitro geneous, or ammonia-producing substances, exist in fish prepared after your method, than are found in any guano, and hence the artificial preparation will go further in the fertilization of a soil.

The ammoniacal salts act chiefly in bringing the foliage into a healthy and luxuriant condition, and thus causes the plant to absorb more of the phosphate and other necessary salts and substances from the soil, and more carbonic acid from the air. The carbonate of ammonia, also, is a solvent for humus, and it quickly saturates any injurious acid salts that may exist in the soil, and forms from some of them valuable fertilizers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. T. JACKSON, M. D., Statate Assayer, &c.

This manure is offered to agriculturists with the assurance of its becoming one of the most popular to be obtained. The Company are ready to establish agencies at such places as are desirable for the convenience of farmers. As the supply for the season is rather limited, the Company would esteem it a favor to have orders forwarded early to enable them to lay down at their agencies the requisite quantities in proper time for use. Orders may be addressed to to the Company at Providence, or to R. L. Allen, New-York; R. H. Pease, Albany; Geo. Buck, Hartford.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Agent,
No. 22 West Water-st., Providence, R. I.
Providence, Jan. 15, 1856. 109—114n16

FARMER'S BOYS.

Out in every tempest,
Out in every gale,
Buffeting the weather,
Wind, and storm, and hail:
In the meadow mowing,
In the shadowy wood,
Letting in the sunlight
Where the tall oaks stood.
Every flitting moment
Each skilfull hand employs—
Bless me! were there ever
Idle farmers' boys?

Though the palm be callous,
Holding fast the plow,
The rounded cheek is ruddy,
And the open brow
Has no lines and furrows
Wrought by evil hours,
For the heart keeps wholesome,
Trained in Nature's bowers:
Healtby, hearty pastime,
The spirit never cloys;
Heaven bless the manly,
Honest farmer's boys!

At the merry husking,
At the apple-bee,
How their hearts run over
With genial, harmless glee;
How the country maidens
Blush with conscious bliss
At the love-words whispered
With a parting kiss;
Then the winter evenings,
With their social joys!
Bless me! they are pleasant,
Spent with farmer's boys!

The English term "husband" is derived from the Anglo Saxon words, *hus* and *band*, which signify the "bond of the house;" and it was anciently spelt, "housebond," and continued to be spelt thus in some editions of the English Bible after the introduction of printing. A husband, then, is a housebond—the bond of a house—that which engirdles the family into the union of openness of love.

OUGH.—Hon. Horace Mann, in a lecture on spelling, uses the following language: "Ough is pronounced differently in each of the following words: bough, cough, hough, though, thought, through, thorough, tough; and surely, this is tough enough. From this combination was formed the celebrated couplet.

"Though the tough cough and hiccough plough me through
O'er life's dark lough I still my way pursue."

SEEN YOU SOMEWHERE.—A lady, who gave herself great airs of importance, on being introduced to a gentleman for the first time, said, with much cool indifference, "I think, sir, I have seen you *somewhere*, "Very likely," replied the gentleman, with equal *sang froid*, "you may, ma'am, as I have been *there* very often."

A genius has just invented a stove that saves three-fourths of the wood, while the ashes it makes pay for the remainder.

A half-brother to the above genius (half Paddy), when asked to buy a Patent Stove, because it saved half the fuel, immediately ordered two of them in order to save the whole.

"Mr., I owe you a grudge, remember that!" "I shall not be frightened, then, for I never knew you to pay anything that you owed."

CAMPHORATING MICE.—"They say" that pieces of camphor gum mixed with seeds, or placed in drawers, boxes, &c., will keep mice at a distance—that they don't like the odor. Easy to try—hard to believe without trial.

TRANSCENDENTALISM DEFINED.—"Transcendentalism in the spiritual cognoscence of psychological irrefragability, connected with concutient ademption of uncolumnient spirituality, and etherealized contention of subsoltory concretion."

Punch says the reason why editors are so apt to have their manners spoiled is, because they receive such vast numbers of evil communications.

INDEX.

About our independence....128
A card....128
Agriculture, capital in....127
Agricultural Society, U. S....123
Asparagus bed....130
" early....127
Baltimore guano trade....131
Barbarism of the farm....132
Bee-hive, peeps into a....131
Birds, sight of....135
Book notices....140
Boys, help yourselves....136
Chiccory, is it a bad weed....132
Clerk and the plow-boy....135
Cochineal....133
Economy, a stroke of....125
Encouraging....125
Farmers, about going west....126
Fencing....139
Fish ponds for country places....134
Fruit trees, loss of....129
" improvement in....139
Grain, cutting early....128
Grease about....133
Guano and stable manure....129
Horse shoeing....133
Horses, influenza in....138
" cheap food for....125
Household matters....129
Millet growing....133
Pear trees, hastening....130
" why don't we set out....139
Potatoes, butt ends vs. seed ends....136
" new Chinese....137
Pumpkin, more about that....133
Rhode-Island Society, &c....137
Roses....122
Salutatory....128
Steam engines for farmers....123
Strawberries, raising....124
Texas, hard winter in....124
Tomatoes, how to get early....123
Vine-dressers wanted....133
Violet, its perfume....135
White-cake—plain dough nuts....126
Willows, how about those....137
Wool from different kinds of food....131
Work for the month....121
Wyandott corn....132

☞ HOW TO GET THE AGRICULTURIST.—A great number of persons are deterred from subscribing for a paper they really need or desire, simply because of the trouble of sending for it. If you wish the Agriculturist, take a piece of paper, large or small, and write simply your name, Post-office, County, and State, (as plain as you can,) fold the money in it, inclose the whole in an envelop—see that it is well fastened with gum, wafers or paste—and mail it to the Editor, as directed on the first page.

Here is a model letter—we print all it contained:

"HARTFORD, Conn., Feb. 12, 1856.

"Send American Agriculturist one year, beginning with the February number, 1856, to George W. Jackson, James Furman, and Oscar Mumford, at Hartford, Hartford Co., Conn. Inclosed are three dollars. O. M."

By simply changing the Post-office, names, &c., this letter will answer for every subscription—though we are always glad to have every one inclose in the same envelop sketches of methods of cultivation, experiments, condition of crops, &c., in their own neighborhoods.

American Agriculturist.

FIFTEENTH VOLUME

A Leading and Standard Agricultural Journal, devoted to the development and improvement of every department of Soil Culture, and adapted equally to the circumstances and wants of those who cultivate SMALL PLOTS of ground or LARGE FARMS.

It is designed to collect and communicate PLAIN, PRACTICAL, and RELIABLE information upon the

Selection of Seeds; the BEST method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various Field and Garden Crops; Fruit Growing; Care, Treatment and Improvement of all kinds of Domestic Animals; the Construction and Embellishment of Farm Buildings; Housing, Preserving, and Marketing the Products of the Farm, Orchard, Garden and Dairy; and to the Domestic or Household labors of the Rural Home.

The proprietor of the Agriculturist—having been trained from childhood to the active labors of a large farm embracing a varied culture, and having devoted a dozen years to studying the principles lying at the foundation of improved soil culture in schools, in the field, in the laboratory, and in traveling for observation—trusts that he will be able to set before the readers of this journal such a collection of sound and practical information as will be to each a continual source of valuable knowledge.

Having no connection, directly or indirectly, with any other business whatever, and owning and controling the columns of this paper, the Editor claims to be entirely independent of all influences which, under other circumstances, might be supposed to modify or govern his opinions or teachings.

Those gentlemen whose labors have contributed so much in years past to the value of the pages of the Agriculturist, still feel a lively interest in its continued and increased prosperity, and they promise their editorial assistance. ☞ The best editorial aid to be found in the country will be continually sought for.

The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before tho beginning of the month in which it is dated.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ If delivered in the City, 12½ cents extra.

The paper is considered paid for wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

Every Subscriber and every Postmaster is respectfully requested to act as agent for this paper.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 189 Water-st.,
New-York.

WEEKLY NEWS, MARKET REPORTS, &C.

By an arrangement with Messrs. Raymond, Wesley & Co., Proprietors of the New York Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly TIMES, the Editor of the Agriculturist is engaged to prepare the Agricultural Department of their papers, including the Reports of the New-York Cattle Markets, &c. The WEEKLY TIMES contains all the matter relating to these subjects, which embrace extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world.

Those desiring it will be furnished by the Proprietor of the Agriculturist with the two papers combined, as follows:

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 00
Ten copies of both papers one year	16 00

☞ ASK AGENTS FOR RECEIPTS.—The AUTHORIZED AGENTS of the American Agriculturist are furnished with the regular printed Office receipts, which are signed with a pen at the bottom and upon the left margin, by the Proprietor. When these are presented, no one need have the least hesitancy in receiving them, as they are given out only to responsible persons.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

PRINTED BY H. C. REYNOLDS, No. 189 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 7.] NEW-YORK, APRIL, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 111.

☞ **The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor of 189 Water-st. (near Fulton). Entrance at No. 191.**

☞ **All Business and other letters should be addressed to** ORANGE JUDD,
No. 189 Water-st.,
New-York City.

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

"I have found violets. April hath come on,
And the cool winds feel softer, and the rain
Falls in the beaded drops of summer-time.
You may hear the birds at morning, and at eve,
Earth sends up a pleasant smell, the dry leaves
Are lifted by the grass; and so I know
That Nature, with her delicate ear hath heard
The dropping of the velvet foot of Spring."

Willis could not have sung more truthfully of this weeping month, had these lines been dictated from his own Idlewild. The moods of April are even more fickle than those of March. But the pleasant ones predominate and last the longer in April, as the sour ones prevail in March. Nature now seems to be in a flutter of excitement, as if on the eve of the accomplishment of some great purpose. She has been mustering her forces and preparing for the effort all through the winter, and the signs of bursting buds have been growing more numerous, as the day approached. The snow banks have disappeared or are fast dissolving on the sunny side of the walls and fences—leaving behind a deposite of fine dust, blown from the highways and fields, like the scum upon the bottom lands of a river, after its over flow. This deposite is a good dressing for the grass, and already the young blades are showing their emerald hues. The blue birds have come welcoming the spring, and yonder a young couple are already inspecting a hole in the limb of an old apple tree, preparatory for family arrangements. It is manifest that they have leased the tenement for the season, and the morning note of the bird is no longer solitary, but comes back echoed from its chosen mate. They have begun their work in season, and every note of this worthy couple should be a joyous invitation to the farmer to enter upon his seed sowing.

PLOWING

is the great business of this month. Now, if the oxen have been well fed during the winter, you will have the advantage of your neighbor who has thought to save in his meal bin by "muzzling the ox that treadeth out the corn." It was a most wretched economy as he now sees, every time he looks at the gaunt ribs of his team, and finds them unable to draw a full load, or to plow a whole day.

Be not in too great haste to plow. Many err in turning up the soil as soon as the frost is out, or while it is saturated with water. The plow acts upon soil in this condition as a packing machine. If clayey, the furrow slice is turned over in a closely pressed mass, and great clods are formed as impenetrable to the roots of plants as unburnt brick. A hard pan too is formed under the plow by the extra pressure the soil receives while in this wet state. The harrow does not break the lumps so effectually as when plowed at the proper season. Wait a little until the water has run off, and the clods break easily at the touch of the cultivator or harrow. Then a seed bed is much better prepared, and there will be a more uniform growth through the season.

And when the plowing is begun, plow deep. This hurrying over the ground making a furrow of four or five inches in depth is poor business. And yet discretion must be used about the depth to which you will stir the soil. It will not do to treat all soils alike. Ten inches may be safe in one field, while it would spoil the crop in another. It is a safe rule to turn up one inch of subsoil that has never seen the light before. If a heavy dressing of manure is to be applied, two or three inches of the yellow dirt may be brought up. This will furnish some new food for plants, and will deepen the soil. A deep and thoroughly tilled soil is the only safe guard against the drouths of our American Summers.

SUB-SOILING.

If this has been attended to in past seasons, it will be noticed that the fields so treated are in condition to plow some days before others. If it has not been, a sub-soil plow will be a good investment this spring. The water is carried off more rapidly in the spring, and there is a more perfect circulation of air and moisture in the soil through the whole season. The economy of sub-soil plowing is pretty generally admitted, by all who have thoroughly tried it.

EARLY SOWING.

The sowing of spring wheat, barley, and oats, is in order after the plowing. Put in the seed immediately after the plowing. Wheat is more apt to blast when it ripens late in the summer. The first part of the summer is the best for all these grains. They get well rooted before the dry weather comes on. Two weeks difference in the sowing may make many bushels difference in the crop.

PLANT POTATOES EARLY.

This tuber is from a mountainous region and loves a cool climate and moist soil. It germinates and grows at a much lower temperature than corn. There is little danger of rotting or freezing after the first of this month, and the sooner they are planted the better. The best soil is one abounding in vegetable matter. We have succeeded admirably with potatoes by simply putting a shovelful of peat in each hill at planting. Heavy dressing with stimulating manures has been found to increase the tendency to rot, especially if the planting is late. Plant early varieties in good season, and the probabilities of success are greatly increased. Lay out a good breadth for potatoes. If the crop is successful, it pays much better than corn.

REPAIRING FENCES.

If this was not attended to last month, let it be done immediately. This used to be the first work of the hired man beginning his season's work with April. It is perplexing to turn aside from planting or hoeing to repair an old fence. The boundary fences between neighbors should be thoroughly overhauled. Poor fences here make breachy cattle, breed mischief, and bad blood between neighbors, and sometimes lead to law-suits. Remember the old adage, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

CLEANING UP MOWING FIELDS.

If that wretched husbandry prevails, of feeding cattle at the stack-yard during the winter, there is a good deal of work to be done in removing the accumulated litter and manure. Rake up the old corn stalks, and coarse hay, and remove them to the yard or manure cellar. It is wasteful to burn them. The beetling of the manure should be followed by a good bushing, which will break up the coarse lumps. This practice of feeding out of the barn is still very prevelant, but we hope it is on the wane. The objections to it are manifold, while it has not a single good reason to recommend it. It makes more labor. A load of hay once upon the cart may about as well be unloaded in the barn as at a hay stack. The extra labor is certainly no offset to the two or three hundred journeys, often a mile long, it will take in the course of the winter to feed out the hay from the stack. It is a cruel and barbarous treatment of dumb animals. There must be intense physical suffering from this exposure to all the cold, the snow, and the rain of winter. It takes one third more hay to winter an animal in this way than in a good barn, and even with extra feed an animal will not come out in the spring, in so good condition. It is enormously wasteful of manure. One half at least of the value of the droppings of the cattle, are dissipated by the sun, the winds, and the rains. There is an illusion in the popular sentiment, that the soil must have all that it catches. The air catches more than its share of all the excretia of animals. The cleaning up in the spring makes a good deal of labor, which you can expend to better advantage elsewhere. Let this wasteful and slovenly husbandry disappear from the farm. Build barns large enough for all your cattle, and all your crops.

CARROTS.

After cultivating this root for years for feeding purposes, we are persuaded that nothing upon the farm pays better. It is a much cheaper feed for horses and for milch cows than oats or corn meal. It is a crop easily raised and by its long tap root, stirring the soil deeply when dug in the fall, it leaves it in good condition to be improved by the winter frosts. Each horse, cow, or ox, will readily dispose of a hundred bushels during the winter, and you can not make a better use of your land, than to raise as many hundred bushels of carrots, as you have of these animals. Sow the last of this month.

SET OUT AN ORCHARD,

if it has not been done in years past. Supposing, that the holes have been dug, the compost and bones ready, and the trees on hand let us proceed to plant a tree. The hole is at least six feet across, and two deep. Fill up now a foot deep with compost made of three parts muck or peat, and one of stable manure well rotted. Upon this scatter a bushel of bones, coarse or broken as you happen to have. Cover these with a layer of surface soil, and then put down the roots of your tree. Prune broken roots, and spread out all the fine fibers, and small roots in their natural position. Then sprinkle upon the roots the finest parts of the surface when it is settled in its new bed. A good tree set in this way will pay its planter richly. Do not set a poor stunted tree, even if it is given to you, or one covered with scale-bugs. It is a fraud upon the public for nurserymen to send out diseased stunted trees at any price. We have some trees upon our premises, that it would have been money in our pocket, if we had paid the seller five dollars each to have kept them. Plant only thrifty trees.

THE GARDEN

should now be put in order, and a space allotted to every vegetable you purpose to cultivate. Manure the whole of it abundantly. Some seem to think the garden will take care of itself, because it has a deeper and richer soil than the fields. But fertilizers pay nowhere better than in the vegetable garden. The same labor will bring double crops with large quantities of manure. Turn up the soil very deeply, and make your calculations to take premiums on vegetables at the fall fairs.

THE STRAWBERRY BED.

This delicious fruit is as easily raised as the potato, and no man has an apology for not planting a bed. A few square rods will furnish the family with a daily supply during the whole strawberry season. Plants of the best varieties can be had from the nurseries for one to two dollars a hundred, and if you have neighbors who have old beds to clean and thin this spring, they will very likely be glad to give them away. They are a great luxury, and very wholesome in the summer heats. Hovey's Seedling, Walker's Seedling, Longworth's Prolific, and Mc'Avoy's Superior, are good varieties, and will not be likely to disappoint the purchaser. Plant a strawberry bed this month.

☞ For full directions on strawberry planting see our last number. ☜

THE RASPBERRY

should also have a place in the garden. It ripens just after the strawberry, and makes a better dessert in its season than any sweetmeats that can be produced. It wants a deep, rich, loamy soil, and if this does not already exist in the garden, it can easily be made by trenching in muck and manure. The young plants should be set in stools about five feet apart. The canes if bent over at the top and tied together will support each other, and make the gathering of the berries more convenient. The yellow and red Antwerp, the Falstoff, and the Franconia, are approved varieties, and about good enough to satisfy reasonable people. The New Rochelle or Lawton Blackberry is a fitting successor to the other small fruits, and will prolong their season a month or more. We have frequently noticed this fruit, and believe it to be one of the few novelties, that will not disappoint the purchaser. It has fruited two years with us, and answered fully our expectations. If near a good market, you may make a large plantation of them, and in three years it will pay better than any farm crop. Tim Bunker, the conservative, has ordered a dozen plants, and you may safely do the same.

THE FLOWER BORDER

should not be a stranger to the farmer's home. Who have a better right to flowers than *his* wife and daughters. They may not pay in dollars and cents so directly as the wheat or potato crop, but flowers pay nevertheless. They are an index of comfortable circumstances, and give the household a higher social consideration. A flower border by the entrance to a farm house, always gives a pleasant impression to the traveller, and makes it more attractive to the friends of the household. It is a relief from dull care to tend it. It will bind sons and daughter's to the old homestead, and make it a more inviting spot than all the world offers beside. Flowers are the cheapest luxury and ornament we can have about our homes. They are so cheap that none have an apology for not planting them. Buy a few papers of flower seeds this spring and repent of that old adage, if you have ever cherished it, that "potato blossoms are the only flowers that should adorn a farmers home."—Ed.

"Madam," said a conductor, a day or two since, "your boy can't pass at half fare—he's too large." "He may be too large *now*," replied the woman who had paid for a half ticket, "but he was small enough when we started!"

APRIL WORK FOR FEMALES.

BY ANNA HOPE.

On Friday, the fifteenth of March, the bluebirds first made their appearance among us, since they said good-bye in autumn. Never did they receive a more cordial welcome. Although the weather is still cold, and the snow lies on the ground, they bid us hope that winter has departed, and spring will soon, in reality, as in name, be with us. With what delight we listen to their sweet songs, so rich in music and in promise. They remind us that we must speedily attend to our shrubs and vines, and transplant any trees that we may desire to remove this spring. Work will be more imperative than usual, and the ladies, I imagine, will be obliged to do much themselves, or be disappointed in their cherished plans.

It seems peculiarly a lady's province to preside over the flower garden, and the ornamental grounds. It affords her a grateful change from her indoor labors, and cares, and enables her, if her husband pursues the employment of Adam in Paradise, to sympathize with him in his engagements, and to assist him in improving their mutual home.

It is now a good time to train climbing plants, before the tender leaves, and the new branches put forth. In summer, when growing luxuriantly, it is often difficult to do it without injury. A very simple trellis is preferable to one more elaborate, unless the grounds are very highly kept, and even then nothing can be better than a Cedar standard. This is an exceedingly durable wood, and will last for many years.

For Honeysuckles, Climbing-roses, Wistarias, and vines of this kind, the branches may be trimmed to within a few inches of the trunk. The standard will then soon be concealed by the foliage of the vines, which is quite desirable. In winter these Cedar standards, wound about with slender branches, have a natural appearance. The Cedars, so trimmed as to preserve their conical form, the lower branches being left much longer than the upper, are very pretty upon the lawn, covered with running vines. Honeysuckles, and roses intermingled are beautiful, the Honeysuckles, by their abundant foliage clothing the cedar with green as well as ornamenting it with its graceful trumpets; while the rose in June will make it one pyramid of blossoms. The Maderia-pine, Morning-glory, the Cypress, and even the Scarlet-runner, may be used to good purpose. We should not despise anything because it is common, but should use it till we can find something better to supply its place.

Of all vines I have ever attempted to cultivate, none have so soon, or so well repaid me as Honeysuckles and Roses. They grow rapidly and luxuriantly and produce an effect upon a new or neglected place, sooner than anything else. They require almost no attention beyond what a lady herself may be able to bestow; training them is a positive pleasure. They add more than their cost, many times multiplied, to the beauty of a house, giving it an air of taste and refinement, and making it the sweetest spot on earth to its occupants. I remember no residences with more interest than some of the log-houses I have seen at the west, with broad projecting roof, and the friendly grape-vine draping the door with beauty, and hanging in graceful festoons from the logs. They are pictures never to be forgotten, and are worthy of an artist's pencil. We can all do something to clothe our dwellings with these simple charms. Such ornaments are not the gift of wealth, but of a love of nature. We are often told to plant trees, that our children, and our children's children may sit under their shadow, accompanied with the sage remark that they will grow while we are sleeping. This is good advice, and such as I am very happy to follow, but I will venture to add, plant vines also, for not only may our children enjoy them, but we ourselves may reasonably expect to participate with them in their pleasure.

The grape vine is itself a fine ornament, and may often be planted near the house with much advantage, thus combining utility and ornament. In such cases, in trimming it regard always should be had to its two-fold character. I have used cedar standards for grape-vines thus planted, and have extended vines from these in any direction I wish the vine to take. Very pretty arches may be made over doors or windows in this way.

In adorning our grounds, if we can not keep a gardener, whose business it is to attend particularly to such things, it is better not to attempt anything more than we ourselves can be sure of having leisure to do well. Flower beds in a barn, or front yard, if neglected, become really ugly, and disfigure what they were intended to improve while grass is always agreeable to the eye, and requires comparatively little attention. Shrubs require much less care than flowers, and will thrive under treatment that would destroy all beauty in a flower bed. Borders for flowers are very pretty along the principal walks of the vegetable garden. Then they do not require so nice attention as in front of the house, and beside, they are more easily kept clean, as no grass is permitted to grow near them. A bed of flowers somewhere about the house seems very desirable for the supply of vases. No prettier ornament for a parlor can be found than fresh, and fragrant flowers, and it is an ornament, which in its season, should never be wanting in a country home.

Children can make themselves quite useful in cleaning the yard, picking up the bones the dogs have carried there, and the dead branches the winter winds have scattered. They can rake up the dead leaves from around the house and put them in the barn-yard, and assist in planting shrubs and small trees. It is quite as creditable to have a nice yard as a nice parlor.

Every year should witness some improvement about our homes, which will continually render them more and more dear to us. A tree that we have planted and watered becomes to us an object of special interest, and we watch its growth as we watch the growth of our children. Let us study Nature and learn her method of planting and grouping if we would do our work well. She abhors straight lines, and formal rows, but plants a tree here and a shrub there, with now and then a vine to clamber up the trees, or to creep along the ground. We are always safe when we conform to her rules, and never need fear falling into an absurdity.

PLANT AN EVERGREEN.

As we look out upon the dreary wastes of mid-winter, what more pleasing or inspiring object can greet the eye than a graceful evergreen tree, towering above the snowy mantle that decks the field, lawn, or other grounds around the rural dwelling, and contrasts its living green with the spotless white? The very name of evergreen suggests pleasing reflections, and lifts the mind to the contemplation of those scenes where

"Sweet fields beyond the swelling flood,
Stand dressed in living green."

Where

——"everlasting spring abides,
And never withering flowers."

And

——"generous fruits that never fail,
On trees immortal grow,"

and where flows "a pure river of water of life" on either side of which stands the tree of life, whose perennial leaves are for the "healing of the nations."

When all else seems dead, apparently beyond resurrection, an evergreen tree or shrub, like the bow of promise, inspires hope that the stormy blasts will anon be past, and bright skies and genial sunshine will again reign. But leaving these contemplations, let us attend to the practical question which suggested this article.

A friend asks "what trees shall I get, and when and how shall I plant them? We give a brief answer, which applies to small plots, where a few trees only are required. Those having larger grounds to ornament, will seek more extended information than we now have time or room to supply.

If one or two trees are desired, we recommend first, the Norway Spruce, (Abies excelsa.) This is one of the most beautiful of evergreens, while it is also one of the hardiest, and retains its bright green color with great tenacity. It grows rapidly in almost any kind of soil, and is easily and safely transplanted.

Next to the Norway stands the White Spruce, (Abies alba,) which though as easily cultivated, and as hardy as the above, is of slower growth. It is, however, a beautiful tree.

Our third choice would be the Austrian Pine, (Pinus Austriaca,) which will contrast well with the preceding two. It has a dark green, heavy foliage, of robust habit, a free grower, hardy, and can be transplanted with safety.

For a fourth, a good selection would be the Stone Pine, (Pinus cembra.) This may be classed as of secondary size compared with the preceeding three, but with its dense mass of dark green foliage, and fine globular head, contrasts well with them, and is altogether a splendid tree.

A fifth selection may be the Silver Fir, (Picea Nobilis,) of the Balsam tribe. It is a fine evergreen, and should be planted with the others, both for its intrinsic beauty and to give variety.

The sixth may be the Bhotan Pine, (Pinus excelsa,) a new pine somewhat resembling the White Pine, but superior to it, having a more slender foliage, of a livelier and brighter green.

The above may be obtained of any good nurseryman. The usual price for those of the ordinary size for transplanting is about as follows: Norway Spruce, 50c; White Spruce, 75c.; Austrian Pine, 75c.; Stone Pine, $1; Silver Fir, $2; Bhotan Pine, $2.

They can be transplanted at any time after the ground is in working order, and until the middle of May. The earlier the better.

No manure is required for this class of trees. If the soil be a good loam this is all sufficient. If a heavy clay, or light sand, it should be removed for a space of four feet in diameter, and a foot, or better two feet deep, and a good soil filled in.

In planting any kind of trees care should be taken to loosen the soil well, and have the holes abundantly large so as not to cramp the roots in the least.

In the above list we have omitted the Deodar Cedar, which has been very popular, but the past severe winter has somewhat affected the appearance of their foliage. It remains to be seen whether the tree has been seriously affected.—Ed.

EVERGREEN SHRUBBERY.

Above we have described a few of the evergreen trees. To give additional variety there should be mingled with them some of the following evergreen shrubs. So also those who have not room for the larger trees, will find these smaller ones adapted to their wants.

Hemlock Spruce, (Abies Canadensis.)—This is one of the most beautiful evergreens, having graceful pendant branches, and rich dark green foliage. It requires a good soil, and will do best in a rather moist situation. Under very favorable circumstances it will, in time, grow to a tree of considerable size, but under ordinary treatment it grows only to the size of a large shrub.

Cryptomeria Japonica, a peculiarly graceful plant, and should have a place on the lawn or grass plot—in a good soil with a dry bottom, if possible.

English Yew, (Taxus baccata,) one of the best and hardiest evergreen shrubs; foliage dark and unchangeable.

Siberian Arbor Vitæ, (Thuja Siberica,) also one of the best lawn plants; very symmetrical.

Golden Arbor Vitæ, (Thuja Aurea.) This is a superb plant—a gem in its way—and should have the most conspicuous and best place upon the lawn. It is a dwarf in habit, forming almost a perfect cone with symmetrical, smooth outline.

Small-leaved Cotoneaster, (Cotoneaster Mycrophylla,) a low growing, spreading shrub, very pretty on the lawn; bears bright coral berries.

Tree Box, (Buxus Arborescens.) A neat shrub, valuable for its lively green, dense foliage, and compact habit; a pretty object as a solitary specimen.

Japan Euonymus, (Euonymus Japonica.)

A desirable shrub ; will grow well in any ordinary soil.*

Broad-leaved Laurel, (Kalmia latifolia.) A low growing shrub, flowers very plentifully, foliage lively green. One of the finest native American plants.

Fiery Thorn, (Cratægus pyracantha,) a showy and very ornamental shrub, worthy a place in every garden.

Red Wood, (Taxodium sempervirens,) a very beautiful tree, the fine foliage of which is of a peculiarly delicate green color. This is a deciduous—leaf-shedding—plant.

Rosebay, (Rhododendron Ponticum.)—There are many varieties ; all are splendid, and cannot be too highly recommended.—The soil should be rich, and they thrive best planted in masses, and when thus planted, in variety, nothing can exceed the splendor of their rich foliage. One or more should be cultivated by every lover of plants.

We intend to give in our next, a special article upon the varieties of Rhododendrons, manner of cultivating, &c.—Ed.

ORNAMENTAL TREES.

Tim Bunker says he would give one hundred dollars in clean cash if he had the deacon's big elm tree in front of his house. It is a noble elm, planted a hundred years ago by the deacon's grand-father, also a deacon in the same church, when the sanctuary, with its square pews, high galleries and sounding-board, was the type of all ornament tolerated in things sacred or secular. But the first deacon loved shade and meditation if he failed to appreciate the beautiful in trees, and so planted this elm and the row of maples that adorn the street leading from his house to the meeting-house. The elm is now a very majestic object, and probably no one passes under the shadow of its wide-spread branches, and looks up into its leafy arches in summer, without admiring it, and blessing the memory of its planter. The offer of so conservative a man as Mr. Bunker, is a good indication of its value. Even he would shell out the cash if he could rear such a noble creation in a day, in front of his dwelling.

A good many of his neighbors would give half as much for such an elm, but for some strange reason, neither Mr. Bunker nor his neighbors plant ornamental trees, though they are still plenty enough in the forests, and the nurseries have them in great variety, for a mere trifle. It does not occur to them that time will make of the humblest sapling as lordly a tree, and as graceful in its proportions as the big elm. They have only to plant it in good soil, and guard it against injury, and nature will do the rest without compensation. Every year will add to its gracefulness, and to the value of the homestead that it adorns. The time has come when farmers should think more of planting ornamental trees as a matter of economy. They can be planted at the road side with little disadvantage to the adjacent land. If maples are planted they will in a few years be yielding sugar. If elms, they will soon turn a barren and uninteresting road into a graceful, shaded avenue, in the summer. It should be a part of the settled policy of every farmer to adorn all the roads leading through his farm in this manner. If he continues in possession, these trees will be objects of interest to make his home attractive as long as he lives. If he removes, his place will be more saleable to any reasonable purchaser. We are sorry to make this latter supposition, but the truth probably is that a large majority of all the farmers in the east do not feel settled for life. They purpose, if they can ever sell their farms to good advantage, to look up a new home, and this feeling of unrest is the bane of all permanent improvement and ornament upon the farm. We heartily wish our farming population, at least the middle-aged portion of them, could feel settled. They would then plant orchards and ornamental trees, and make their homes attractive. Let the good work be commenced this month.

For a description of some of the best kinds of shade trees, see other articles on the same subject in this number.—Ed.

WHAT SHADE TREES TO SELECT.

This month is especially adapted to setting out shade trees, and notwithstanding other articles in this number, we will add something more on the same subject. In December we published a very carefully prepared article describing those trees best suited for public and private grounds, which gives a direct answer to a dozen letters of inquiry received during a few days past, and we cannot do better than to reprint a part of that article, especially as it will in this number reach many hundreds of new readers.

A smaller class of trees is required for the streets of cities and compact towns, than for parks, and for more thinly settled villages, and the grounds surrounding rural residences, where there is abundance of room.

For compact streets, we recommend the following as among the best : Oriental Plains, Paulownias, Catalpas, and the Silver-leaf Poplar.

The Oriental Plain is a pyramidal tree, with clean stem and foliage, is scarcely exceeded in the rapidity of its growth, and has as yet no insect enemy.

The Paulownia is of very rapid growth, has a large leaf, often two or more feet in diameter on young trees. We measured some of them last season that were over two feet in diameter. The size of the leaves diminishes with the growth of the tree. The leaves resemble the ordinary Palm leaf fan. The tree is perfectly hardy, though introduced originally from the climate of Japan ; and it is chiefly remarkable for the exceeding beauty of its flowers, which before the leaves appear in the Spring, cover the trees in large clusters, from six to nine inches in length. The flowers are of a rich purple color, and fill the whole air around them with fragrance. This tree bids fair to supplant the Ailantus, as it grows quite as rapidly, excels it in many things, and is without its objectionable features.

The Catalpa is more generally known, and need not be described. The only objection to this tree is that its "pods" or seed vessels furnish the rudiments of cigars to "Young America."

The Abèle, or Silver Leaf Poplar, grows as rapidly as any one of the others. The upper side of the leaf is of a rich dark green, the under side a silver white, and the contrast of these colors produces a pleasing effect upon the eye, when the leaves are set in motion by the wind. It is, however, only fit for paved streets, on account of the multitude of suckers it throws up from open ground.

For open streets and grounds the following list comprises the most choice collection ; we place first in order those which we consider the best, all things taken into account ; Silver-leaf Maple, Oriental Plain, English and American Elms, Tulip-trees, Sycamore Maples, Sugar Maples, Pin Oak, Scarlet Oak, Burr Oak, Catalpa, Linden, Deciduous Cypress, Liquidamber or Sweet-gum, Laburnum, Cucumber Magnolia, Kentucky Coffee-tree, &c. This list embraces all those recommended for streets, except the Silver-leaf Popular, which is left out for reasons given above.

The Silver-leaf Maple in its foliage somewhat resembles the Silver-leaf Poplar, and is by many persons preferred to it. It is the most rapid growing of the Maples.

The other Maples are well known as strong robust growing trees, with thick, dense foliage, holding on to late in the autumn ; and they are among the most desirable of shade trees.

The Elms are well known—the American for its gothic arch, and the English for its dense foliage.

The Oaks are of a more slow growth, and are well known. The Pin Oak is the finest of them, on account of pyramidal form, and glossy foliage.

The Linden, (bass-wood,) is known for its symmetry of form, and the Mountain Ash for its beautiful red berries.

The Deciduous Cypress has a soft feathery foliage, of a delightful light green, and very unique in its character.

The Liquidambar, or Sweet-gum, has a star leaf, which assumes a beautiful red tint in autumn. This is one of the finest *native* trees, and is not half as well appreciated as it should be.

The Laburnum is noted for the abundant clusters of rich yellow flowers with which it is clothed in June.

The Cucumber Magnolia is a tall growing tree, with large leaves and symmetrical habit.

The Kentucky Coffee is a handsome tree, its light foliage somewhat resembling the Locust. It produces a bean which was used as coffee by the early settlers.—Ed.

SCYTHE AND MACHINE MOWING.

Father Buckminister is down upon the mowing machines. What ails the man? He seems to think scythe mowing as cheap as machine ; and so far as the past is concerned, he *may* not be far from right ; but it can not be so in the future. The machines we must have. Any machine, which, in our hurried climate, substitutes brute for human labor, in the months of May, June and July. must be cherished. If a mowing machine will cut the grass as well and cheaply as the scythe, we should say of it as Patrick Henry did of the war—"Let it come;" because it eases the severity of the summer labor.

But more is to be expected. It will do the work cheaper and better, after a few more such years as the past has been, for improving the machines. It probably does it cheaper already. At least such is the opinion of many who have used it; and not a few who have tried it two or three years, declare that although a good mower will excel it in the goodness of the work, yet it already does its work better than the majority of such hands as can be hired.—J. A. N., in New-England Farmer.

MARSH MUD.

This article abounds all along our sea coast, and has not yet attracted a tithe of the attention which its importance demands. It is a valuable manure, and where it can be had for the gathering it will pay to cart it miles inland. To the shore farmer it is one of his cheapest sources of manure. We have used hundred of loads of it the last three years, and it has never failed to produce excellent crops. It is good spread upon the land, and plowed in immediately. It is still better spread in the fall, and plowed under in the spring. The action of the frost upon it during the winter aids the decomposition of its insoluble gein. In several analyses of marsh mud that have come under our notice, it is shown to be made up of organic matter, silica, alumnia, oxide of iron, lime, magnesia, soluble salts and sulphuretted hydrogen. Its quality differs greatly in different localities in the same bay or creek. This appears on a very slight examination. Some samples have 80 per cent. of sand, while others have not 50. Where the sand predominates it should be put upon low, black, loamy soils. Other localities furnish a mud with 15 or 20 per cent. of vegetable matter. This is the most valuable, and often gives astonishing results when spread upon gravelly and sandy loams. In our experience we have found this a very valuable dressing for fruit trees and shrubs. Our largest growth of pears, whether upon quince or native stock, is upon soil made principally of marsh mud. Three to four feet of wood in a season is no uncommon growth in this portion of our garden. The raspberry, the strawberry and the pie-plant, all flourish admirably in this soil. We can recommend this article to all farmers and gardeners living near the shore, as a valuable help to their operations. Large quantities of it are frequently raised by steam mud-diggers in our seaports, to make the water deeper in the docks. This will pay for carting to any of the gardens within a mile of the landing place.

If a farmer owns a landing on tide water, or can have the use of one, it will be good economy for him to purchase a scow, and the necessary tools for raising this mud, and landing it. Combined effort and capital, in a neighborhood of shore farmers, would probably be the best economy. Large quantities of it might be raised at seasons of the year when farm work is not pressing, and it might be carted on to the fields in the winter. If any of our farmers have doubts of the value of this article, let him spread a load on his grass and note the result. Let him also put a load on two square rods of ground, and spade it in, and plant it with potatoes—comparing the result with two square rods cropped with potatoes, without any manure. A few loads may also be forked-in under his fruit trees. A few simple experiments of this kind will test its value, and we think lead to its more general use.—Ed.

SPARE THE QUAILS.

We cannot too strongly impress upon the minds of Northern farmers, the propriety of making some suitable provision for the preservation of this domestic little game-bird, during the severity of winter. The necessity for such a step has repeatedly presented itself to us during the late long continued severe cold, whenever we have passed through the market of our city and have seen the vast quantities of game of all kinds, and especially of quail, which remain unsold, although offered at a very low price. Every farmer is acquainted with this bird, though few are aware of their usefulness in ridding the land of noxious plants, such as thistles, docks, &c. During the early summer, before any grain is matured, this little bird is to be seen, gleaning its food from among the weeds fast ripening along with the crops, and which would otherwise prove a source of incalculable annoyance.

When we consider that each full-grown bird consumes a gill of seed a day, we can imagine of how much service they in reality are. Audubon, the great Ornithologist of America, conclusively proves their usefulness to the husbandman. The sportsman well know that it is useless to beat for quail in a country overgrown with weeds. How much then does it behoove farmers to make some protection for so useful a bird, when they are unable to provide for themselves, and are beset on all sides by the snares and trap-guns of the rascally poacher. It is lamentable to witness the reckless and open infringements of the already too lenient game laws, and to see the vast quantities of game so wantonly destroyed, not to be sold, but thrown away for want of purchasers.

These remarks are made not with any hope of preserving quail for this season, but with a desire to induce our readers to further aid, by all means in their power, the increase of a bird so useful as this—useful not only in their fields, but also for the amusement it affords to the sportsman at the proper season, and also as an article of food. In the past winter the mischief has been done—henceforth let it be shown what we can do to remedy it and prevent its recurrence.—Ed.

The Philadelphia Ledger says that the $15,000, the sum required to be raisd to secure the exhibition of the National Agricultural Society for that city, has been contributed.

DEAD LAMBS, ARE THEY ORNAMENTAL?

Editor American Agriculturist:

Sir: In riding a week since through a part of one of the northern States (which shall be nameless), I noticed dead lambs hanging on the top rails and to the stakes of fences, and also to the limbs of trees, more especially apple and peach trees near the houses.

Can you tell me why this is done? One of my friends suggested that they were hung up as an *ornament*; another stated that they were signs to *advertise* the traveling public that they bred sheep there; while another was of the opinion that it was to *perfume* the atmosphere, and scare off the scarlet and other fevers, the whooping cough, measles, and any other disease at the time prevalent in the neighborhood.

Having been born and brought up in the city of New-York, I am entirely ignorant of all such rural matters; but on reflection, I am inclined to class these dead lambs with the dead cats and dogs which are occasionally set up as *ornaments* in our streets, and as *perfumery* for the neighborhood. I should suppose they would be much better for the manure heap, and were well worth the trouble of cutting up and composting them, as well as all other dead animals; but having as I before said no knowledge on this subject, I advance the opinion with great diffidence. Will you, Mr. Editor, be so kind as to oblige me with correct information on this matter?

A. Citizen.

We beg to be excused. Somebody please answer "Citizen." Do!—Ed.

LICORICE.—WILL IT GROW IN NEW-ENGLAND?

[Some half-a-dozen or more have asked our opinion of the feasibility of growing licorice in this country. Having no experience in the matter we have made several inquiries. Our first answer is from Dr. Asa M. Holt, which will serve in part as a reply to those who have addressed letters to us on the subject, since all but one of them are from New England.—Ed.]

East Haddam, Ct., March 18, 1856.

As you expressed a wish to have the result of the experiments which I made sometime since, in the cultivation of *licorice*, I very cheerfully tell you the story as follows:

I was fond of licorice from my childhood, and I valued it also as a medicine, and I understood that it grew abundantly in the south of Europe, and that in Italy it was a pest which it was difficult to eradicate from their gardens. So after I had received my medical diploma and settled in the world with my family, and commenced the cultivation of a garden, I thought myself fortunate in obtaining through the kind agency of a distinguished Botanical friend, a small stock of the licorice plant, (the Glycyrrhiza glabra of the books.)

I set it out in a spot of sandy loam, in my garden, where the soil was neither *very* wet nor *very* dry. I watched it in this place with a great deal of interest, and cultivated it with a great deal of care for several years, but it yielded me very little increase. I then thought that perhaps this soil did not suit it, and as the surface soil where I had seen it grow before appeared to be sandy, (possibly the sub-soil was damp,) I transplanted the licorice to a soil which was both lighter and dryer, and it had also a dry sub-soil. But here also I was disappointed, for here the licorice increased still less than it did in the place where first set out.

At length, after a number of years of unsuccessful trial, finding the licorice which I raised in my garden cost me more than ten times as much as the cost of the imported article, I very reluctantly relinquished its cultivation altogether.

Whether the climate did not agree with it, or whether the soil did not suit it, I do not know. But, however great a "pest" the licorice may be in Italy, it did not seem to be very tenacious of its hold on my territory. Very respectfully, Asa M. Holt.

HOGS—SHEEP.—A BOY "HELPING HIMSELF."

Lyons, N. Y., March 14, 1856.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

I saw an article in the Agriculturist for this month headed "Boys help yourselves." I am twelve years old, and am trying to do something for myself. Last fall we had a large quantity of soft corn, and father told me if I would buy some hogs he would sell me corn to fatten them. I thought I would try my luck, and Nov. 2d I bought three hogs, at five cents per lb. My account with the hog experiment stands thus:

Dr.		
Nov. 2—	To one hog, 185 lbs., at 5c...	$9 25
	To one hog, 105 lbs., at 5c...	5 25
	To one hog, 103 lbs., at 5c...	5 15
	To 59 bush. soft corn, at 18¾c.	11 06
	To 12 bushels corn, at 25c...	3 00
		$33 71
Cr.		
Dec. 20—	By 1 hog, 288 lbs., sold at 7½c.	$17 10
	By 1 hog, 148 lbs., at 7½c...	11 10
	By 1 hog, 164 lbs., at 7½c...	12 30
		$40 50

Profit on three hogs....$6 79.

Encouraged by the above experiment, I wish to try my hand with sheep. I would like three ewes, the best I can get. Will you favor me with your opinion as to which is the best? the Cotswold, the Leicesters or South Downs? Myron R——.

We are glad to see our young correspondent "helping himself," especially when he does so with his father's approbation. We have some notions of our own about boys *owning*, and not owning, a few things on the farm, which we have put off saying for a great while. We'll try to get to that subject when our "spring work" is over.

About sheep, we think, everything considered, South Downs would pay the best, as their mutton is more highly esteemed by epicures in the market. For the mere purpose of fattening, Myron R. can purchase grades of this breed for about the same price he would have to pay for common sheep. Grades of the Cotswold or Leicesters would also do well; but the mutton of the pure breed is rather too fat for the table. Still, many people are no judges between very fat meat, like the Cotswold's, &c., and the lean, tender, juicy, venson-like mutton of the South Downs; the carcasses of the former often bring very high prices. They are very showy, with their full, round sides and quarters, and consequently command exhorbitant prices among the rich for dinner parties.—Ed.

GROWING ONIONS.

STATEMENT OF A. B. CHADSEY.

To the Committee on Grain and Vegetable Crops of The Rhode-Island Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Industry.

I herewith submit the following statement of a crop grown on forty-four rods of ground the past season. The soil is sandy loam in a high state of cultivation, surrounded at high tide with salt water and has been planted to onions fourteen years in succession. The crop has always been divided between onions and carrots—two-thirds onions and one-third carrots, till the past season, when it was planted all to onions. On the 11th of April the piece was manured with twenty-one horse loads compost of fish manure—composted the previous year with menhaden fish, salt marsh sod, and beach sand. The compost lay in a heap through the winter, was dug over in the spring, and thoroughly mixed together. The quantity of manure by measure was three and a half cords; this was plowed in with a Michigan plow twelve inches deep. I then spread on the furrow twenty-two bushels unleached ashes, and 115 pounds ground bone, and bushed them in. On the 13th of April, the piece was planted with one pound and a quarter of onion seed, put in with a seed planter in drills twelve inches apart; and rolled down with a cast iron roller. The season being cold through April and May, the onions were quite backward, and not sufficiently large to hoe until about six weeks after planting. I use at the first and second hoeing a common stirrup hoe with long handle, after which I use a small hoe four inches long and one inch wide with a short handle, say ten or twelve inches long. With this we creep over the piece cutting up the weeds between the rows and pulling them out from among the onions with the fingers. This last operation is performed at each of the three hoeings after the first two with the stirrup hoe—the last or sixth hoeing is done with the long handled hoe. When the onion tops get their growth they fall to the ground, bending down at the neck. They then begin to shrink up, while the onion continues its growth even more rapidly than before. When the tops become dry, or nearly so, the onions are pulled and laid in rows, and left to cure in the sun four or five days, when the tops are cut off with sheep shears or knives—the shears being preferable; the onions are then stored in a dry airy building.

Finding at the second hoeing that some of the onion seed had not come up, or had been cut off by worms, the deficiency was supplied with Sugar Beet and French Turnip Seed, and a row of Acorn Squashes, (a species of large West India squash,) planted round the edge of the piece. The following is the cost of cultivation, the quantity, and the value of the crop.

EXPENSES.

3½ cords compost Fish Manure, at $2¼	$7 88
22 bushels unleached Ashes, at 15c.	3 30
115 lbs. ground Bone, at 1c	1 15
Team and man carting and spreading manure	2 50
Bushing, rolling and planting	1 50
1¼ lbs. Onion Seed, $1.25, other seed 20c.	1 45
Hoeing, six times	12 00
Pulling Onions	1 50
Topping Onions	3 29
Carting from field	2 50
Rent, land valued at $200 per acre, 44 rods at that rate, and 6 per cent	3 30
Total	$40 37
Sept. 12 and 13th, harvested from the above described ground of 44 rods, 219 bushels red Onions, sold at 50c.	$109 50
Nov. 18th, 7 bushels Beets, at 30c., and 9 bushels French Turnips, at 40c.	5 70
560 lbs. Acorn Squashes, at 1½c.	8 40
	$123 60
Expenses deducted	40 37
Leaves a profit of	$83 23

A. B. CHADSEY.

Wickford, R. I. Dec. 5th, 1855.

DIFFERENCE IN CLIMATE, FRUITS, &c., BETWEEN KENTUCKY AND NEW-YORK, NORTHERN OHIO, &c.

The Editor of the Louisville, (Ky.,) Commercial Review, speaking of this subject, and referring to the banks of the Hudson and the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario, says:

"We live under a different sky, and upon a different soil. We have longer and hotter summers than prevail there, and shorter and more open winters. We suffer less from intense cold than the dwellers in the regions we have named, and more from sudden and extreme alternations of frost and thaw. The vegetatian of our April answers to that of their May. We have finished our annual feast of strawberries before their plants are white with bloom. We send them in August the same kind of peaches which they pluck from their own trees in September. And later in the season, while we are picking our Autumn pears from the spurs and eating them in the open air, perhaps with summer garments on, they are enjoying theirs by coal fires, and perchance with the additional zest imparted by the music of sleigh bells in the streets. In October the deciduous trees in their forests are bare of leaves, while the maples, oaks, ashs and gums in ours, more than rivaling the setting sun, are just beginning to put on their most beautiful and most gorgeous liveries. In November, or earlier, their hybrid and perpetual roses are all carefully laid away for the winter, while ours are still in possession of bloom,

"The beauty and the glory of our lawns."

We need not multiply examples in illustration of the climatic differences of the several regions we have named. These differences are well understood, and their effects on vegetation and fruits are notorious. Grapes that ripen early in the Ohio Valley, on the Hudson River do not mature at all without artificial aid. Apples that are a dull green or a brownish-yellow in orchards within the sound of the Falls of Niagara, here wear the hues of a brilliant red. Peaches that on the banks of the lower Ohio are classed among the sweetest and best, on the shores of Lake Erie are insipid or too sour to be palatable. The Rambo, which is quite large, and one of the best of apples in Eastern and Central Pennsylvania, in Kentucky is frequently under medium size, and comparatively an inferior fruit. The Milam, which here at times large and always a really excellent apple, in Northern Ohio is voted unworthy of longer cultivation. And the Tillotson peach, which is one of the earliest and best peaches cultivated in this immediate latitude, years ago completely "ran out" in Pennsylvania, New-Jersey, and New-York.

AN INDIAN'S LETTER.

[The letter below we print just as it was received. It is very well written, and was, to us, quite interesting and suggestive. We think it will be so to our readers, and therefore freely give it the space occupied, adding that our subscription list contains the names of a number of the original inhabitants of this country. These are scattered, one here and another there, among the different tribes occupying their various "Reservations," from Maine to Oregon.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Shawnee Reserve, Kansas Territory,
January 28th, 1856.

If you can give an Indian credit for a short time, please send the Agriculturist to West-Port, Mo. I will send you the dollar as soon as I receive the first number. The reason I don't send now I am inexperienced in writing for papers, &c. Don't know so well about my letters reaching their desired destination. I wrote for the National Era on the same condition. But for it I should not have seen a notice of the Agriculturist.

He has his money, me my paper. Glad of it. We Indians are beginning to open our eyes a little. Some blame us very much for being no farther advanced than we are. But think for a moment how hard it must be for a people to give up all of their old manners and customs, and adopt entire new ones about which they know nothing at all. Don't know where or how to begin, and when started don't know how to advance. Heretofore they have had no criterion to go by. The few whites among us were here only for gain, cared not how they acquired their ends. I wish to gain information, is the reason I write for the Agriculturist. I am a one-horse farmer, wish to learn more about farming, stock raising, &c. Yours, &c.,

Samuel M. Cornatzer.

Preparing Osage Orange Seed.—Isaac L. Stanley, of Rensselaer, Indiana, says, to prepare this seed for planting, "Tie it up in a bag and sink it in running water three or four weeks; if you have no running water, deposit in any vessel filled with cold water, taking care to change the water every day, to prevent fermentation." He thinks this is not generally known, and imparts it as having been proved to be a good plan, by two year's experience.—Prairie Farmer.

Why is Horace Greely like a damaged field of Wheat? Because he has been struck by Rust.

DOGS, BIRDS AND OTHER PETS IN NEW-YORK.

By inquiry among dealers, and a careful examination of "account of sales," we find the amount of money invested in the dog trade in New-York City to be not far from a hundred thousand dollars! There are upward of ten thousand dogs sold here annually, at prices ranging from ten to twenty dollars each, some choice specimens of highly trained animals selling at a hundred and fifty to two hundred dollars; and we hear of one instance in which five hundred was paid by a gentleman of wealth for a beautiful Newfoundland dog. But the average price is fifteen.

A single house, that of Archy Grieve, 150 Chambers-st. importer and dealer in birds, Shetland ponies, sheep, goats, foreign fowls, swans, pigeons, monkeys, and every variety of dogs, informs us that his sales amount per year to something like the following:

Dogs, say two thousand, average price $15 each—$30,000.

Birds, including eagles, vultures, owls, hawks, doves, mocking-birds, parrots, robins, canaries, etc., etc., say five thousand, at $3 50 each—$17,250.

Shetland ponies, thirty, at $100 each—$3,000.

Wild deer, say fifty, at $25 each—$1,250.

Barn-door fowls, foreign, imported by himself, four thousand, sell at $3 to $5 per pair, average $3 50—$14,000.

Rabbits, lop-eared and others, two thousand, at $1 to $5 per pair, average $3—$6,000.

Monkeys, one hundred, at $5 to $50 each, average $25—$2,500.

Gold fish, five thousand a year, at 25 cents per pair—$1,250.

Thus we find the sum total invested in dogs, birds, monkeys, etc., etc., of a single firm, to amount to the surprising sum of $75,250.—Life Illustrated.

A Green Yankee.—The editor of the Knickerbocker says, I should like you to have seen a specimen of a green Yankee who came down the Sound in a Hartford steamer with me. He had never been to York before, and he was asking questions of every body on board the boat. However if he was "green as grass," he was picking up a good deal of information which will doubtless stand him in good stead hereafter. One of his comparisons struck me as decidedly original:

"Up the Northampton," said he, "I took breakfast, and they taxed me tew shillin's; 'twas a pooty good price, but I gin it to 'em. 'Twas enough, anyway. Well, when I came down to Hartford, I took breakfast agin, next morning, and when I asked 'em how much, they looked at me and said half a dollar. I looked back at 'em pooty sharp—but I paid it, and after I paid it, I sot down and ciphered up inside how much it would cost a fellow to board long at that rate; and I tell you what, I pooty soon found eout that fore the end of a month it would make a fellow's pocket-book look as if an elephant had *stomp'd on to it!*"

Sam Slick himself never enjoyed a more striking simile.

THE BURDOCK AND THE VIOLET.

It came up in the garden, that burdock, just behind the violets and close to the rose bushes. It was in the corner close up to the fence, and we said we should let it stay, and it should have all the kind care and the gentle attention that the roses and the violets had. Roadside burdocks we knew were coarse, vile things, with their dusty leaves and their sharp burrs ever adhering to the passers-by, and we would like to see what a garden burdock would be like; whether it would be bright and fresh and delicate for growing in such sweet company, and so we were merciful, and let it stay. And it grew among the roses and the violets, and gentle hands watered it often, and the earth was softened about the roots, just as for its fairer neighbors; but it waited not for them in its progress upwards. It shot up, rank and tall, and wide leaves spread all abroad and threatened to cover up and obscure its less assuming neighbors. And at last the blossoms came. They were large and strong and armed with keen thorns, and the flowers changed into burrs, and they reached out their thorny fingers and grasped the passers-by, and the white dust lay thick on the rough wooly leaves, and the seeds flew out on the wind to seek lodging places, where another year a new crop should find foothold and sustenance. A violet crept through the fence and looked up brightly beside the hard, dusty street, and we said we will let it grow there; and so it grew. Water, it had none, except from celestial fountains; care, it had none except from sunshine and sweet dews, and the kindly glances of the passers-by; yet there it lived and bloomed sweetly, "wasting its sweetness on the desert air." Its green leaves were as green as its cherished kindred of the flower-bed, and its blue eye reflected as hopefully as the blue of the summer sky.

So we said to ourselves, outward circumstances and mere surroundings are but little after all; and if change to Nature comes, it must be a work deep inwrought by other than earthly hands.

Salt in Starch.—Our wife informs us that putting salt in starch, while it gives the clothes a good appearance and makes them iron smooth, is destructive of the cloth, and should never be practised. The same piece of linen was divided and used in two families in one of which salt was added to the starch: In this family the linen failed very soon, while in the other it wore remarkably. Other circumstances confirm the opinion that it was the salt that produced this result. We use a bit of spermaceti, or a piece of lard as large as a small chestnut, in a quart of starch, and consider it a great improvement.

Homestead.

An exchange says:—"A little child of our acquaintance was rendered seriously ill, last week, by chewing a handsome enamelled ball ticket, which its mother had given it to play with. For the benefit of those who do not know, we would state that the enamel on the cards contain arsenic!"

GOOD VARIETIES OF APPLES FOR GENERAL CULTURE.

There is an increased degree of interest on the subject of fruit-growing. We have, from different sections of the country, inquiries for a few of the best kinds of Apples adapted to general culture. With the diverse experience of different cultivators, and so many individual tastes to consult, as well as the variation of climate in the same latitude, it is next to impossible to make out a list that shall give general satisfaction. However we will name a few—not quite at random—which, if not the very best in all cases, will, we think, disappoint no one who shall plant them.

For Northern New-England:

The Early Harvest; Fameuse; Baldwin; Roxbury Russet; and Hubbard's Nonsuch. For a sweeting, Danver's Winter Sweet.

For Central New-England:

Early Harvest or Red Stranahan; Golden Sweeting; Porter; Peck's Pleasant; Baldwin; Rhode Island Greening.

For the Valley of the Hudson:

American Summer Pearmain; Fall Pippin; Gravenstein; Newtown Pippin; perhaps Northern Spy;—at Western New-York, add Tolman's Sweet.

For a more Southern latitude, say the Vallies of Pennsylvania:

Summer Rose; Yellow Bellflower; Fall Pippin; Rhode Island Greening; Herefordshire Pearmain; Bullock's Pippin.

To our Correspondent in Ohio, we would suggest:

Summer Rose; Fall Pippin; Red Canada; Rawle's Jennet; Belmont Greening.—Ed.

SPRING WHEAT.

We trust our readers will not neglect the cultivation of this valuable grain, wherever the soil or climate render the raising of winter wheat impracticable. Although grain may not, during the coming season, bear the exorbitant prices realized the past, yet it will be sufficiently high to remunerate the farmer abundantly for his attention to this crop. It is true this grain does not bear so high a price in the market as the choicest winter grain, yet it is as profitable a crop for use in the producer's family, as the highest price winter's grain. It has indeed a greater proportion of gluten which is the muscle or strength-giving element of the grain, although the flour is not as white.

A strong, well pulverized soil is required for it, containing a due proportion of lime, which if it does not exist naturally in the soil, should be added to it. The earlier the seed is in the better, and if the soil be a stiff clay it is better that it be plowed in the fall. It then only requires to be harrowed before sowing, or if sown upon the honey-combed surface left by the frosts of winter, a slight covering is all that is necessary. It will ripen later than winter wheat, but like that should be cut when the berry is yet soft, as the flour will be whiter and more abundant than if left standing till perfectly ripe. Only the grain intended for seed should be left till quite hard.

Varieties.—There are several choice kinds of spring wheat. The *Siberian*, the *Italian* and *Black Sea*, were formerly the most popular. The former two are now seldom cultivated, but the Black Sea is still grown to a considerable extent. The *Canada Club*, the *Golden Drop* or *Fife*, and the *Tea* wheat are at present the most popular, and are largely grown, yielding a full, fine berry. The comparative qualities of each of these superior kinds have not been given to the public as fully as they ought to have been, and we should esteem it a valuable contribution to our agricultural information, if those who have given particular attention to raising these varieties will furnish us the results of each on the different kinds of soil, and also the different modes and circumstances of their cultivation.—Ed.

WHEAT FIELDS—LOOKING UP THE BARE SPOTS.

While the heavy snow mantle so long upon the ground during the past winter, has served as a great protection to very many wheat and rye fields throughout the country, in some instances, along the fences for example, the snow-banks were so heavy and remained so late—perhaps they are still there—that the crops will be smothered and killed. So also on exposed situations, where the wind has blown off the snow, the grain roots are frozen out "in spots." These spots should not be left idle, or, what is worse, remain to grow up with weeds. As soon as the ground will admit, it is well to go over each field, and examine the roots and wherever they are mostly killed on a surface of a few square yards, sow on Spring wheat. Where the plots are small or distant from the outside of the field, the seed can be dug in with a hoe—a hand drill is still better. If they are large and easily accessible, a harrow or horse drill may be used.

A little foresight and trouble of this kind will frequently increase the aggregate yield of a field several bushels—equivalent to as many dollars—and this without any extra work in plowing, or harvesting. If the sowing be done early, the two kinds of wheat will generally ripen nearly at the same time, or sufficiently so to admit of being harvested together; while a small mixture of spring wheat will not injure the whole crop for market. If they do not ripen evenly, there is no difficulty in leaving these patches to cut at another time, especially where the harvesting is done with a cradle instead of a reaper.

The above practice we have pursued successfully, and from our own experience are prepared to recommend it strongly. Where a whole field has been half or two-thirds killed out we have sown the entire field over with a heavy or light seeding of spring wheat, according as wanted, working it in with a light harrow, and the result has been a good crop at a trifling extra expense. The ripening is seldom so uneven as to prevent harvesting both varieties together.—Ed.

THOSE RHUBARB PIES.

They are good, everybody says, but the trouble is to get the rhubarb. "I don't know the first thing about growing it," said a farmer to us the other day. Well, it is an easy matter when you know how. Here are some of the particulars:

Just as soon as the ground is in tolerable working order, go to the nearest commercial gardener or nurseryman for the roots to plant out, if you cannot get them as well of a neighbor. Ask for one of the following kinds: first, the Linneaus; second, Mygatt's Victoria; third, Giant or fourth Royal Albert. The Linneaus is the very best on many accounts, when you can get it. The roots are as yet scarce and high, say 75 cents each, or $8 per dozen, but they will in the end be cheaper than the others at a less price. The Victoria and Royal Albert cost, say 50 cents per root, or $4 per dozen, and the Giant about half as much. Any one of these four kinds will give good satisfaction. For a small family a dozen plants are enough to begin with. You can increase from your own stock for the second year, if desirable, by dividing the roots at a dry season in autumn.

Having got your roots home, or before, prepare the ground by trenching or digging it up at least 16 or 18 inches in depth, and mixing with it a liberal supply of well rotted manure. Rhubarb plants thrive best and are most productive in a moderately heavy soil, or clay loam. For a light soil cow or hog manure is better than that from the horse stable.

The roots are to be set about three feet from each other. The holes must be deep enough to have the bulb set down into the soil, so that the crown or top of the bud will be just even with the surface of the ground. Pack the earth in around the tuber pretty well and then wait for your "pies," only have an eye occasionally for any straggling weeds that seek too near an acquaintance with your plants. If the roots set out were large to start with, you can sometimes get a small crop during the first season, though it is always better to wait until the second year, after which you can get an annual crop for several years. Pulling the crop too soon weakens the plant. Some years before your first crop runs out we will say more about dividing the roots and transplanting for a new bed.—Ed.

Acknowledgement.—During the past month we have received very many favors from subscribers in the form of large lists of new names, strong words of approval, encouragement, &c. It would have been a pleasing task to acknowledge our obligations in each case, by a private letter, but our time has been incessantly occupied, and we hope this general reference to the matter will be accepted in the place of anything more special at this time.—Ed.

Sidney Smith, on seeing a lump of American ice, remarked that he was glad to see anything solvent come from America.

A life of ease is mostly a life of sin.

MANAGEMENT OF FOWLS—PLUCKING FEATHERS.

We have received several inquiries of late, respecting the management of poultry, and as the following one relates to a matter of which almost all fowl breeders are ignorant we insert it entire.

EDITOR OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST:

Will you please inform me in your next number why hens pick feathers from each other and eat them? I have a number of hens comfortably housed, and provided with everything that from time to time has been recommended in the agricultural papers—lime, charcoal, pulverized oyster-shells, gravel, pure water, meat, corn, rye, wheat, buckwheat, oats, &c. What is lacking, for the want of which they supply themselves, in a measure, from each others clothing? Some of my hens present a very singular appearance, being literally stripped from comb to breast. I have watched them repeatedly and seen them pluck the feathers from each other, and devour them with the keenest relish.

If this inquiry is not too simple for your consideration, you will confer a favor and satisfy the curiosity of one, and perhaps many of your readers, by giving the desired information.—B. STRADLEY, Fishkill, N. Y., February, 1856.

REMARKS.—The above is a habit seldom occurring we believe, in any of the breed of fowls, and one unknown to the majority of poultry keepers, although we doubt not that any extensive breeder will at once recognize in the description, a great source of annoyance to himself, and of suffering to his birds. We think however, that it is capable of explanation, and we are confident it can in most cases, be effectually prevented by a little foresight. The most disagreeable feature in the case, is, its universal occurrence during the gradual renewal of the feathers after the heavy molt which takes place during October, November and even later—perhaps in the coldest part of the winter. At a time when the warmest plumage is necessary for the comfort of the bird, we may chance to see them stalking about, deprived almost entirely of any protection from the severity of the weather, and in this condition they are easily affected by that scourge of fowls, the Roup.

Its origin, we imagine is to be attributed to the following cause. The desire of all fowls for meat, blood, offal, &c., is well known, and this they will always gratify when possible. We think it is probable then—that the raw and bleeding appearance presented by them when just recovering from their molting, attracts the notice of the others, and induces them to pluck the feathers as they appear just above the skin. Bleeding follows these when torn out, and the particles of flesh once tasted excite an appetite that seeks farther gratification.

And we might also add another cause as probable, and as worthy of credit as the above, which is the presence of lice on the fowls, in pursuit of which the feathers are torn away, and the skin lacerated. These pests can easily be eradicated by the use of clean ashes, in which the birds can dust themselves. A little flour sulphur should be sprinkled over the houses.

The best remedy to adopt is to separate the fowls so affected, and let them feed and roost by themselves, being careful however to maintain at the cold season, an even and comfortable temperature in every part of the house. Plenty of nourishing, *warm* food should be given them, in fact, as much as they will consume.

For this purpose cracked corn, thoroughly boiled and given hot, surpasses any thing else that we have tried. Let this diet be continued and our chicken fancier will soon see in the renewed health of his fowls, that his care has not been ill bestowed. In addition, see that pounded oyster-shells and bones together with fresh earth and gravel be freely supplied, and that too at frequent intervals, and our word for it, he will not regret his labor.—ED.

QUESTIONS ABOUT GRASSES.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

I have often read of a plant called "Blue Grass," and asking farmers about it, they showed me different kinds of "poa" (*fertilis, comprersa et.*) May I ask: what kind of poa is blue grass?

Can you inform me how this grass seed is harvested and dressed for sowing?

E. MELDAHL.

Parkersburg, Va., Feb. 24, 1856.

Blue grass is *poa pratensis*. In the Eastern States it is generally known under the name of *June grass*, because it ripens the latter end of this month. It is the earliest ripened grass we have, is very nutricious, and from latitude 39° south, in favorable seasons, has a large second growth during the latter part of the summer and fall—in fact, when the weather is mild, we have known it continue to grow all winter in good limestone soils. It is highly prized at the West for cattle pasturage.

It is harvested and prepared for sowing much like other grasses. For more particular information on this point, we would refer our correspondent to Messrs. Munn & Buchanan, Louisville, Kentucky.

A mixture of blue grass, white clover, and red top, makes the finest lawn of any grass we have in this country. Pure ray grass is the next best.—ED.

A STUMP PULLER.—Mr. Luther Hampton, of Woodbridge, N. J., dropped into our office a day or two since to say that the cheapest and best "stump puller" is to cut down the tree, remove the limbs, chain the butt end to the stump, and then hitch a team to the top of the tree and drive them round. The long lever thus obtained will "yank" out any stump that does not hang worse than a four pronged double tooth. A strong chain will be needed.—ED.

BENEFIT OF SNOW.—Wm. J. C. Haviland, writing from Dutches Co., March 11, says: "We are still having very cold weather, but the past winter has been just such as we want to insure good crops of grass and winter grain, as they have been covered and protected by a foot-and-a-half of snow."

That is so, doubtless, and it has been not a small item of comfort to those who have been "snowed in" for a quarter of the year. Pity our animals could not appreciate it also.—ED

HOW CORN IS RAISED IN BUCKS COUNTY, PA.—OATS, WHEAT, &c.

[A friend sending a club of subscribers from Attleborough, Pa., added some account of farming, in his vicinity, "not for publication," he says, but the following extract is suggestive, and we take the liberty to give it in the writer's words.—ED.]

** "I believe the prejudice against agricultural papers is slowly giving away among the farmers of old Bucks, or the lower end at least. I find that a considerable number read the agricultural papers, but although these papers are read, very few I believe are induced to change their routine of farming, believing their old system the best, which I esteem is not a bad one, but susceptable of much improvement.

A sod is broken up for corn, a portion of which is generally covered with coarse yard or stable manure. Much of this plowing is done in the second, or the first part of the third month, when practical, which is not the case the present season, the ground being still under snow and ice. But an opinion prevails with many otherwise smart farmers, that shallow plowing is best for corn, and a large proportion is plowed only from three to five inches in depth. That which has been plowed early, when planting time arrives is well harrowed, and two shallow furrows thrown together, forming ridges about four feet distant, which are marked at right angles about the same distance the other way, and the corn dropped on those ridges, and in some instances covered with fine compost, but they generally omit the compost, and drop a little plaster and ashes on each hill after it comes up. The plow and cultivator are both used in tending. The last dressing is mostly done by throwing two shallow furrows to the corn, finishing the middle of the row with the cultivator.

The harvesting is done by cutting it off at the ground, setting thirty hills in a stack. In this way from sixty to seventy bushels are frequently produced per acre, and some claim a hundred, but I am not aware that I have ever seen that much.

Corn is followed with oats. A heavy harrow is run over the ground, which splits or pulls out most of the butts, and enables the plow to cover them much better. After the ground is plowed, the oats are sowed on the furrow and harrowed in, and then rolled. Product, from thirty to seventy bushels per acre. The oat stubble is plowed and harrowed, after which it is manured with barnyard and such other manure as can be obtained. Some guano is used, and much more would be if it could be obtained at prices that would answer.

The ground is again plowed for wheat, which is generally sown with a drill, and seeded with timothy. In the spring following it is seeded with clover. The amount of wheat sometimes reaches, but I believe seldom exceeds, twenty-five bushels per acre. Lime is freely used, mostly applied on the young grass after the wheat is taken off, at the rate of about thirty bushels (unslacked) per acre. The land is kept in grass from two to three years, and pastured or mowed, as suits the proprietor best. The mowing machine is coming into general use, which, with the revolving rake and the unloading fork, make short work in hay-making, if the weather is good.

I have penned the foregoing remarks, not with the intention of publication, but if thou can'st select anything from them, worth giving to the public, thee may do so, by withholding my name. I was educated at the plow-tail, not receiving as much school learning as the poorest may now receive, without price. What knowledge I have, has been derived principally from reading and observation—a large portion from the latter source."

For the American Agriculturist.

BEES.

ERRORS IN THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE VOLUME OF TRANSACTIONS.

I have just been looking into the volume of "Transactions of the American Institute for 1854." I find on pages 346-7 and 8 extracts from "Bee keepers Guide, by M. Debeauvoys, member of many learned societies, Paris, 1851," on "the Physiology of bees." This being a subject on which I felt somewhat at home, several glaring errors brought up the questions—Can this book be reliable on subjects with which I am not acquainted, and must I bring my *own* experience to aid me before I can decide, *pro.* or *con* ?

As the book (Bee-Keepers Guide) is recommended by the club as "interesting and useful," I propose to make a few remarks. The Secretary (Mr. Meigs) was either very unfortunate in his translation, or the book affords but little that is reliable. The extracts are intended, no doubt, to give us an insight into the natural history of Bees. Now it appears to me that this matter, to be *useful*, should be *true*. For want of time I must pass over most of there extracts, only noticing by the way, that error and truth are pretty well incorporated, and the reader must exercise much close observation to separate them; also, that the remarks relative to the queen changing size, color, &c., have but little foundation in reality, and are calculated to confuse and perplex the inexperienced, with regard to her identity. I will notice more particularly the last two sections, as the matter of these can be tested by any bee-keeper, who no longer need take the assertion of *any* man, but may easily verify the facts himself. The following is very like an inconsistency. "It is an old queen that always goes off in swarming." Taking this as it reads we must infer that a stock swarms but *once* in a season, (it is well known that we often have more,) or, that more than one queen had been wintered—which no one will contend for—in order to have them old. A moment's reflection shows that all queens issuing with swarms *can not* be old. We will now see what is said about, "Her song." "Some days before her departure she sings a a song quite like the grasshoppers. She repeats it frequently at intervals, while profound silence is kept in the hive. Some bee raisers say that she sings only on the departure of a second swarm. Others say it is owing to young queens, who are prisoners, demanding leave to quit their cells." Here we find an assertion first, then a doubt expressed relative to a part of it. It no doubt refers to the piping of the young queens, with which all apiarians of much experience are familiar. But as many are not familiar with this matter and will be likely to get erroneous impressions, I would say the "profound silence" will most likely be found to consist of a pretty brisk humming, just the same as at all other times in hot weather, in populous stocks. Also we might expect to hear the old queen piping previous to the first swarm. Now during an experience of twenty-five years, I never heard an old queen "piping." In fact no criterion can be give for predicting a *first* swarm from all we can hear, or see, outside the hive. It is only young queens that give us any notice when to expect a swarm, and this is usually from eight to thirteen days after the old one has left. Her piping is easily heard by applying the ear to the side of the hive, any time, morning or evening, previous to *any* swarm after the first.

With respect to the queen laying the two kinds of eggs; that is, for males and workers, he says. "During the first eleven months she lays none but workingmen's eggs, about sixty thousand a year. At the end of the eleven months she begins to lay eggs of males, and continues it for twenty or thirty days, and during this period she does not lay one worker's egg, but every three or four days she deposits a queen egg in a royal cell.' Facts will be found materially at variance with these statements. For instance, a stock will send out a swarm in June—it will be admitted that the old queen left with it; also, that a young one takes her place in this old stock—now during the yield of buckwheat honey in August, when a numerous family is left, a brood of drones or males is raised. It is difficult to make this queen that deposited the eggs for them, older than two months. Second swarms when large enough, raise a brood of drones at the same time—such always have young queens. But the assertion that she lays male eggs exclusively for twenty or thirty days, is very extravagant, and calls for refutation, if not censure. A few personal examinations, will demonstrate the fact, that eggs *are* in the worker cells at *all times* in good stocks, from March until the first swarm leaves; and thousands of males may have matured during the time. All eggs deposited by the queen, hatch into worms or larva, in about three days. Consequently no period longer than this, can elapse without the laying of worker eggs. I will add an opinion, that both kinds are frequently deposited in one day. The time has arrived when guess-work in some points of natural history is no longer called for. It appears that error has been in this instance, promulgated by what ought to be good authority, and those who have no better will imagine they have the fact. Let the thing be tested.

I would really like to *know* about that "fish story" on page 320 of this volume of Transactions.—M. Quinby, St. Johnsville, N. Y.—
(Author of "Mysteries of Bee-Keeping Explained.")

For the American Agriculturist.

THE OX—"WASTE NOT, WANT NOT;"

OR MAKING THE MOST OF A BEEF ANIMAL.

To make the most and best of everything, is a Christian duty as well as the dictate of frugality. Wastefulness in the article of food is more common in America than in almost any other nation. By it, the rich wrong the poor, and the poor wrong themselves. Let us see how we can turn a butchered ox to the best account. Here is the result of an actual experiment for your readers to improve upon if possible.

The hide, horns and tail are together sold to the tanner and currier. The liver, lights and heart, are cooked for food in such manner as is most agreeable. The gall bladder is emptied into a phial and the liquid preserved for bathing bruises and sores. The other bladder is blown and hung up until needed. The "melt" is cut up for the cat or dog. The tripe after its contents have been thrown on the manure-heap is cleaned, boiled, and seasoned with vinegar—a most palatable dish. The other entrails are given to the hogs, which they will greedily devour. The lower jaw makes excellent mince-meat, as also the neck pieces if desired. The brains are quite good when fried. The upper part of the head may be boiled and eaten, and the bony portion put with the other bones. The feet and legs should be boiled, skimming off the neat foot oil for shoes and harness, and eating the softer parts, than which no epicures dish was ever more richly delicate. The hoof may be skinned or knocked off after scalding with hot water, and thrown among the bones. The tongue must be put with the pieces selected for smoking and drying. All the rough tallow and that upon the kidneys may be tried over the fire and converted into candles. The scraps left after trying are good for soap-fat. As the bones are obtained, by cooking from time to time, let them be thrown together, to be converted by grinding or some other process, into manure. The *meat* your readers know how to dispose of whether fresh or salted, whether cooked by roasting, broiling, frying or boiling. There is not one part of an ox which may not be made useful. Try it. Mercer.

Pennington, N. J., Feb. 22, 1856.

Deu Tell.—There is a village in Michigan, where the church bell is rung every day at twelve o'clock, for the people to take their quinine, as they have the chills and fever all around.

Precisely So.—He was a sensible man who used to say to his wife, "It is useless quarrelling, my dear, for you know we must make it up again."

HORSES.

Those who have the care of horses are frequently very negligent in the manner of discharging their duty. There is no animal in existence so susceptible to the effects of dirt, impure air, bad bedding, &c., as the horse. All excrements in a horse's stable, however small in quantity, should be removed at least once a day, and a clean, dry place left for the animal to stand, or lie down upon. Many a horse when stabled for an hour's feeding, is placed in a close, filthy place, without a breath of pure air—there obliged to make his meal. We would almost as soon think of eating in such a place ourselves, as of compelling a horse to do it. If you have no windows in your stable, by all means make one at once, or knock off a board, to let in light and pure air. When you have removed the droppings from the stable at night, strew the floor with dry straw or muck;—the value of the manure will more than repay the expense—besides rendering your horse healthier.

Horses take cold very easily; for this reason they should never be turned from a warm stall, where they have perspired for an hour, directly into a damp pasture. Neither should a horse ever be left to lie down over night in a damp pasture where there is no shelter, but let a shed be built, to which they can retire at night. A horse will never lie down in an open lot when he can find a place of shelter; and if there is nothing better, they will always get near a fence or tree at night.

CORN STALKS FOR HEAVES.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

In your paper for the present month, at page 125, is a most excellent article entitled "Cheap food for Horses"—the whole of which I can endorse. I wish to say in addition, that from several years experience I have found corn-stalks to be the very best winter fodder that can be given to horses. A long time since, when Jesse Buel published the Albany Cultivator, a communication appeared in that paper recommending corn stalks "as a cure for heaves," upon which Mr. Buel, remarked, "that his hack horse being afflicted with that troublesome complaint, had been fed on corn stalks for one year, during which time he had shown no signs of heaves," and added, "we do not say the horse is cured, but this we do say, that since he has been so fed he has exhibited no indications of heaves." (I quote from memory.)

I had about that time purchased a fine young mare for $20—the lowness of the price was in consequence of her being afflicted with heaves. She was immediately fed on corn stalks, and the heaves disappeared, and she did half the work of a farm of 80 acres, besides all the running round, as her mate in the harness was used for breeding. Two years after she was sold for $70. The advance of $50 I put down as the net profit on one year's subscription to an Agricultural paper, enough to pay for one nearly if not quite a life time, should nothing else of value have been derived.—J. W. De Le Ree.

Farmingdale, L. I., March, 1856.

SWEENEY IN HORSES—IS IT A DISEASE?

BY WM. SOMERVILLE, V. S., BUFFALO, N. Y.

Of the many diseases to which horses are subject in the western country, there is none more common, nor any which receives such varied treatment, as the above named.

What is Sweeney? It is said to be a disease or falling away of the muscles that cover the upper part of the scapula (shoulder blade,) at nearly its termination, the hollow is about the size of a man's hand, and the skin on the part and vicinity is represented to be grown so fast to the sub-tissue that it is necessary to pull at it (the skin) several times a day, while some infallible remedy is applied. In these remarks I would beg the reader to understand, I do not deny that the shoulder is not at *any time* diseased; but as lameness is commonly confined to joints, I generally find on examination that the muscles in the vicinity of the scapula at its junction with the humerus to be the seat of the lameness, and such lameness to be caused by slips, sprains, getting the foot in the manger box, sudden pulling on heavy loads, &c.

As to this sweeney or hollow part of the shoulder being the cause or seat of lameness, I have always protested against such, under the three following heads:—*First:* I have never been able to see any notice of such disease in the best works written by the most eminent authors of the past and present; *Secondly:* I have generally found the cause to be often occasioned by diseases of the feet. And *Thirdly:* If action will develop muscle, a want of action must cause a disease or atrophy of muscle, and as the shoulder blade has a broad and flat surface, it is to be expected that such disease will sooner be detected at this part than any other.

Doctors or men who profess to treat or cure sweenied shoulders, seldom know much of the anatomy of the horse. When called on to see a patient that is lame, or has been crippled on the pavement for some time, he always selects the *sweeney* part as the cause, as he says he can see it and that's enough. The feet are never examined as to heat; there may be corns, contracted feet, internal disease of the feet, such as navicular, lameness, ossification of cartilage, diseased laminæ or coronary enlargement—nothing is known of them; but horses lame from such, always go low and are frequently tripping. It is not strange that his shoulder or shoulders should fall away. Why? because the muscles have not been used; he is afraid to lift his feet up and strike them against a hard road.

As I have remarked before, the treatment of sweeney and the remedies to effect a cure are various. They consist of rubbing the part with corn-cobs and loosening the skin by pulling it with the hand, applying angle-worm oil, inflating the skin with air, making incisions and inserting peas, allowing them to work to the lower part of the shoulder; blistering and swimming; the last remedy will be the most reasonable, as the horse will use his shoulders without having anything to come in contact with his feet. Otherwise under such treatment for weeks and months, he is standing all that time on dry boards with caulked shoes. The cavity disappears from the effect of the stimulants applied, but on using the horse it is discovered that he is as lame as before. And the worst of it is, the disease has had time to assume a chronic form, which may be arrested although never permanently cured.

Gentlemen of extensive information and owners of valuable horses, from coming in contact with men who treat such imaginary diseases, are generally misled. They are inclined to look to the shoulder as being the seat of all lameness of the anterior parts. Inquire of the sweeney practitioner if he is able to remove bone spavin? He will tell you he can cut off spavins, ringbones, kill the botts, cut out hooks, and, in fact, cure all diseases, curable or incurable, to which the horse is subject.

In conclusion I would ask the reader to think and consider how much judgment is used in the treatment of this fancied disease, its causes, &c., and he may be able to agree with me, that sweeney first came into existence and is practiced on at present by men who think there is no other disease in these parts, and who know nothing of the diseases I have just noticed.

If my remarks on the above subject may in any manner lessen the unnecessary torture to which the horse is at times subjected to, I shall be well satisfied; if not he must hobble along as before, although the hair may be, as in some cases, burnt off his shoulders.—Am. Veterinary Journal.

Cultivating Barley.—*One Man's opinion.*—Mr. Drofannah Knox, of Mt. Healthy, Ohio writes to the Genesee Farmer:

The soil best suited for barley is of a light, dry, nature, but we raise it here on clay subsoil, with success. I sow as early as the ground can be got into a mellow condition after sowing the oats. We sow at the rate of two bushels per acre. If it is late in the spring, a little more should be sown. A light harrow should be used to cover the seed. Twenty-five to thirty bushels per acre is considered, with us, a good crop. If the land is wet, it is better not to sow until it works fine, even if you have to wait till late in the season. Barley is an excellent crop after potatoes, when the land has been well cultivated

Wash for Barns.—The Horticulturist gives the following as the best for this purpose: Hydraulic cement, 1 peck; freshly slaked lime, 1 peck; yellow ochre (in powder), 4 lbs.; burnt umber, 4 lbs.; the whole to be "dissolved" in hot water, and applied with a brush.

We Presume Not.—The editor of the Woonsocket Patriot makes merry over the mistake of an old Shank-hai hen of his, that has been "setting" for five weeks upon two round stones and a piece of brick! "Her anxiety," quoth he, "is no greater than ours to know what she will hatch. If it proves a brickyard, that hen is not for sale."

Orchard, Garden, &c.

SOWING GRAIN IN ORCHARDS.

We frequently see this folly along the line of our railroads, in our summer travel. Here we see a splendid crop of rye, and there a vigorous growth of oats or barley. Sometimes Indian corn is planted in a young orchard. We believe the practice to be bad husbandry. A neighbor of ours has an apple orchard, set about ten years since. He took admirable care of it for several years, washing the trunks and larger limbs with strong soap-suds, and manuring them abundantly. The orchard was a beautiful sight, and began to bear fruit. Three years ago he stocked it down with rye. The crop was a good one, but it proved disastrous to his orchard. It checked the growth of wood, and it has borne no fruit since. Similar facts are abundant in the experience of farmers. We cannot tell, perhaps, all the causes of this injury to fruit trees. Any grain is a heavy draft upon the land, and probably uses up the material the young trees want to perfect their fruit. A grain crop shades the soil very much also, and this must prove injurious. It is well to keep a young orchard under cultivation for some years, but the ground should only be cropped with roots, and abundantly manured. An orchard will pay us for our trouble according to the capital and labor we expend upon its cultivation.

Ed.

PRUNING FRUIT TREES.

It the present state of horticultural knowledge it is about as important to tell the owner of an orchard, seasonably, what he should not do, as what he should. Much skill as it requires to plant a tree, it requires still more to prune it so as to help its growth and fruit bearing. Fortunately for the nursery-men, there is so little skill in planting, that a majority of the trees removed from the nursery never call for pruning. The sunbeams of their first season remove every redundant twig with a thoroughness that the most rabid pruner might envy. A small sample of undersized bean poles is the autumn inventory of what went upon his plantation in the spring as a splendid lot of the choicest fruit trees, purchased at one dollar each, and richly worth two. These of course will not want further pruning. But you have an old orchard, with some dead limbs and a thick, heavy growth of sprouts, and so much top that there is no chance for the sun to get in to ripen the fruit, what is to be done with it? Do not infer that because you have a keen-edged knife and a sharp saw, that the best use you can make of them is to go into the apple tree tops with them in April. The truth is, February, March and April, are the worst three months in the year for this purpose. Lay your pruning tools upon the shelf for the present, and walk with us to your neighbor's orchard. This was pruned last April. You see that many large limbs were removed, and that the old wood is now nearly as black as if it had been painted, and that a long black stain extends far down the amputated limb, greatly injuring as well as disfiguring the bark. Examine the wood closely and you will find it has already begun to decay. The whole tree has received a shock by this untimely pruning, and years will not repair the injury.

The best time for a general pruning is at the close of the first growth of summer, which is from the 15th of June to the 15th of July. Then the leaves will take care of the flowing sap, and all small wounds will be rapidly healed over. The large wounds may be closed by a coating of tar, thickened with brick dust, applied warm. Gum Shellac is good, but is more liable to peel off than the tar mixture.

Never cut a limb for the sake of using your tools. The tops of apple trees do not require severe thinning in our hot summers. Nature understands the wants of the tree often much better than the gardener who has had his training under the dripping skies of England. The thick limbs and foliage are needed to protect the trunk, the larger branches and the fruit. You will find your fairest specimens in the top of the tree, and partially shielded from the sun's rays by leaves. Very small limbs, a half inch through, that cross each other or that interfere with the symmetry of the top, may now be removed, but no general pruning should be attempted.—Ed.

A TREE CONVENTION.

Since the joint Worm Convention, held a year or two since in one of our Southern Cities, there has been a terrible itching for notoriety among all animals, quadruped, biped, centipede, and no ped at all, to hold similar mass meetings, to redress grievances, and to promote the common interests of their respective kinds. The mania has even invaded the quiet precincts of vegetable life; trees have had their gatherings, and waxed eloquent over the story of their accumulated wrongs.

One of our reporters recently sent us an account of a Grand Mass Meeting, held in the vicinity of a quiet village, on Long Island, which has sent out a multitude of sons and daughters to all parts of the country. His report runs thus:

On a windy night in March, when the moon was riding high, at the weird hour of midnight, a bushy looking character might have been seen tacking the following notice upon the sign-post of this village:

GRAND RALLY OF TREES.

Whereas the graduates of the vegetable colleges, and arborescent schools in this vicinity, have sent back divers reports of hard usage, mutilation, disease, and premature death, greatly to the prejudice of their own reputation, and to the detriment of the schools, a Convention is hereby called to discuss this and kindred grievances, and to petition the proper authorities for relief. Old graduates are particularly invited to attend.

Signed, Undergraduates.

As this was stuck upon the board with wooden spines, it was concluded that Mr. White Thorn had been active in publishing the call for the meeting.

The time of the meeting was kept a secret from outsiders, but on the 16th, as I was coming home late at night, I heard a terrible stir in the grounds of a neighboring nursery. I thought at once of the call for the convention, and determined to be present and take "notes." I posted myself in the branches of a Norway spruce, and saw the multitude gathering. Such a moving of trees, I venture to say has not been witnessed since the day when

> ———" Birnam wood
> Did come to Dunsinane."

oaks, elms, and maples, spruces, pines and firs, pears, apples, and peaches, trees of high and low degree, came up in platoons, in double and single file, in masses, and singly on to an open space in front of the office, where the trees are usually packed, and sent to their destination. The graduates were well represented for numbers, but such a lean, diseased, deathly company of trees, I never remember to have seen in one locality.

Mr. White Thorn stated to the assembled multitude that he had taken the responsibility of calling the meeting, and was very highly gratified to see such a hearty response to the call from his old friends who had gone out from the institutions in this vicinity. He hoped to hear a good account from them, for the sake of the good mothers who had nursed them in infancy. He wanted to have some means of silencing the slanderous reports (as he believed them to be) which were circulated in regard to his Alma-Mater. He nominated Knight's Monarch as Chairman of the meeting. This was carried by acclamation. We looked to see some real personage step forth from the crowd, but instead, we saw a most unpromising scrawny looking dwarf stepping forward to the Chair. He was not over six feet high, though he had been graduated, as he told his audience, four years. He had a stoop in his shoulders, and was covered with scale bugs from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. He called the meeting to order, and announced the business.

Mr. White Oak was the first speaker. He said he was rejoiced to receive an invitation to this meeting; though he had a good deal of reputation for toughness, and was not at all disposed to complain of grievances, yet he must say that he had suffered immeasurably in his reputation by the treatment to which he had been subjected. He said that he went out from his Alma-Mater six years ago, but he was in a condition so mutilated, that it was fully three years before he had been able to restore himself to a sound condition. When his roots had been replaced, he found that his pores had become so indurated, and his whole body was so hide-bound, that he had not been able to make more than half a summer's growth, in any season since. His sensibilities were daily wounded by the slighting remarks he had been compelled to hear, not only concerning himself, but the whole tribe of oaks. So much had their reputation suffered, so many deaths had occurred in his neigborhood, that the whole race was in danger of being banished from the parks and pleasure grounds of gentlemen, as if they were foreigners, and only half hardy. He hoped some measures would be taken to secure a large share of roots for the young oaks who graduate in future. He said he was aware of the difficulties of lifting a strong rooted seedling like himself, but then it should be considered that the tree-planter bought all the roots of the tree, as well as its top, and for one, he thought the grower should fulfil his contract. He thought it an outrage to put an ignorant, unskilled laborer to such nice work as lifting the roots and delicate fibres of a nursery tree.

A young Elm followed White Oak. He said he could sympathize, entirely, with the speaker last up. Although he had the name of being a little slippery in character, and could make roots very fast, yet he found it hard work to get through the first season, after transplanting. He said he was planted in gravelly soil, and he thought he should have died many a time last summer, for want of water. Full one half of his roots had been torn off, and there had been no reduction of his limbs to meet the deficiency. He said the Elms were losing ground in all his neighborhood, and it was no uncommon thing to hear pious and well bred gentlemen defaming the race and cursing the institutions of learning that sent out such graduates. He was glad for one that the honored Professors, who had trained him to gracefulness and splendor, could not hear all that was said of them. He hoped, however, that some measures would be taken to stop this horrible mutilation.

A grave looking personage, in the shape of Minister Apple, next arose. He said he was accustomed to receive the dispensations of Providence with equanimity and resignation, but there were certain dispensations of man that he could not sit down under with patience. He said he was by nature a conscientious bearer of fruit, and professedly went forth to do good in the world. This was his vocation, and he delighted to fulfil it, but he found it entirely impracticable, in consequence of his seminary learning. He had not only to complain of the premature root pruning to which his bretheren had been subjected, but he found himself stocked with a whole regiment of apple tree borers, in the egg. He had no sooner got established in his new position, and formed fruit buds, than he found himself honey-combed about the collar, and the only harvest he had yet been able to produce was a respectable crop of saw-dust, thrown out by these animal sawyers. He thought these borers were not a stock that cultivators generally wished to buy, and that nursery-men ought to make it as much a point of honor to deliver *only* what was bought, as to deliver *all* that was purchased. He should be obliged very soon to renounce both his name and his profession, unless better morals prevailed in the nursery.

There was a rustling of silks, and a great stir among the female part of the audience, when the minister closed. A rotund and jolly looking woman, very richly dressed, now came forward. Although somewhat dwarfish in height, it was quite manifest that she had been accustomed to good society. The chairman introduced her as the Duchess d' Angouleme. She said:

Mr. Chairman:—I think the gentlemen who have preceded me have made a good deal of stir about very small matters. If I had nothing more than internal troubles, such as amputated roots, and a bored collar to complain of, I should not have broken the modest silence of womanhood, on this occasion. But there are troubles, Mr. Chairman, against which the patience of my suffering sex are not proof. Internal griefs that can be kept from the gaze of the world, we can bear without murmuring; but when we are sent forth to the world, smitten with a visible plague, our skins rigid with a leprous defilement, called scale-bugs, our pride is wounded by this insult offered to our personal beauty, and we claim the privilege of being heard. Woman has her rights, Mr. Chairman, and when they are thus trampled upon by men without taste and refinement, the time has come to assert them. For three long years, Sir, my life has been little else than a desperate struggle with the vampires that I was forced to carry off upon my person, when I left this neighborhood. The constant inquiry of visitors—" What is the matter with your Duchesse trees?" was exceedingly mortifying. If veils had only been as plenty as these pestiferous lice, I should have hid myself for the remainder of my life. All the promises of faithfulness with which my purchaser was refreshed by the nursery-man, have failed to be realized. I protest, Mr. Chairman, in the most solemn manner, against this wholesale traffic in lice, under the garb of a retail trade in pear trees. Has it come to this, that the companions of dukes, the favorites of nobility, are to be treated like the truants of a kennel, given over to filth, and to become the habitation of parasites? Is the potash market bare? Has soap and water failed from the earth, that we are to be treated thus? Let us arise in our might, and protest against these outrages."

Our reporter was obliged to leave in the midst of the proceedings. How much of embellishment he added to the speeches we are unable to say. We have no doubt, however, that the main facts in the case are correctly set forth.

We have purchased, in our life-time, scale-bugs enough to out-number all the armies of the Allies and Russia combined. We think the point made by one of the speakers well put—that a cultivator only purchases trees, and for the nursery-man to put off upon him a generation of vipers in company with his trees, is a fraud upon the unsuspecting. If the nursery-man does not receive enough for his trees to afford the soap and water to clean them, let him charge higher and keep his trees scrupulously clean. It should be considered a disgrace for any man to send out lousy trees from his nursery. We advise all purchasers, so far as practicable, to see to the selection of their trees in person. And when this is not possible, to return all inhabited, deceased and unsound trees that are sent to him. It is the seller's business to send you clean trees.—Ed.

What is it you must keep after you have given it to another? Your word.

LOSS OF FRUIT TREES—HINTS ON SETTING OUT, &c.----No. II.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Having called attention to the importance of a little extra care as a *paying* remedy against the annual loss of fruit-trees. I propose now to consider the proper manner of setting them out, and the course of treatment they should receive, until, at least, they arrive at a bearing state.

First, a word in regard to *locating* fruit trees. Apples, peaches and quinces are considered better adapted to what is generally understood by orchard culture, that is, they may occupy ground some distance from the house, since they do not require quite so much attention at the period of ripening as pears, plums, cherries, appricots, grapes, &c., &c. The peach, however, even when grown in orchards, and a regular business is made of gathering the fruit, requires unremitting attention. Some kinds of pears need gathering before they are yellow ripe upon the tree. It is therefore more convenient to have them come frequently under the eye. Cherries, particularly early ones, are much despoiled by birds, and although I would always befriend the birds, yet I would like to have them share with me. For plums a patch may be allotted to them and the pigs and poultry.

Setting Out.—The holes should be prepared by digging out the earth for a much larger space than the size of the tree, so that the roots may not be at all cramped. Throw all good earth on one side the hole, and all poor soil cast away as worse than useless around the roots of a fruit tree. The usual size of the holes may be three to four feet in diameter, and two to three feet deep. These are to be filled with loose rich earth, mingled with composted manure enough to give the tree a good start, but in no case allowed to come in contact with the roots. It is a mark of good management to supply *liberally* the outer parts of the hole with compost, which will decay and mix with the soil by the time the roots are ready to strike out for food. Let the filling be heaped a little above the surface with good, rich manure, to allow for the settling of the soil about the tree.

If the transplanting be done in the *fall*, a much greater heap of earth, say a mound of from one to two feet high, may be made to much advantage, as a protection against high winds, extreme cold, surplus water, &c. I am no advocate for watering trees when set out, and through the season, unless it should prove extremely dry, when a daily watering of a few pails full to each tree until it rains, may save it. It will be remembered that in my last article I proposed as a substitute for all this trouble, *puddling* and *mulching*, which once done is done for the season.

In regard to *after culture*, nothing will compensate for neglect. Nursing, care and attention must be given to fruit trees as well as to any crop of the farm. Grass and weeds are to be kept down, and manure applied and dug in. A little pruning and shortening-in, every season, scraping off moss, washing with soft-soap, the prompt removal of anything like disease, such as knots, blights, &c., constitute the summary of the "nursing, care and attention" required by fruit trees. W. D.

Morristown, N. J.

For the American Agriculturist.

TREATMENT OF THE PEAR TREE AS A STANDARD.

BY A PRACTICAL NURSERYMAN.

In pruning it is highly important to bear in mind the natural disposition of the tree, in order to foresee the probable consequences of every cut that is made. When left to its natural growth the Pear tree attains the hight of 30 or 40 feet as a standard, with a stem of considerable length, but frequently sub-divided at five or six feet above the ground. The lower the sub-divisions take place, the greater the tendency to assume the naked character of stems, for a distance of several feet from their bases. Ultimately the top is formed of a roundish spreading or a pyramidal form, on the outside of which the fruit is for the most part produced, where it occupies the best position for enjoying the beneficial influences of light and air.

An example will show the necessity of studying the natural disposition of this tree. Suppose a person were required to keep a tree within certain prescribed limits, far short of its natural hight, and that regardless of its incessant tendency to attain that hight, he cut annually with reference merely to the assigned limits. Year after year he would find these limits exceeded by a shoot or shoots disposed to mount as stems, and he might continue years in vain attempts to overcome, by direct opposition, the natural tendencies of the tree. A skillful pruner would do no such thing. He would not labor to waste the energies of the tree, but by gentle and skilful means, would direct them towards the production of fruit.

The standard form being the most natural, requires the least opposition to growth by the knife. If we commence with the young tree, having one shoot or one summer's growth from the graft or bud, the first object is to secure a stem of the requisite hight, and of sufficient strength. Six feet is the usual hight for orchards, and every stem should be of the same hight, or nearly so. The shoot above alluded to will be furnished with buds from bottom to top, and all of these buds are capable of producing shoots under favorable circumstances; but the uppermost bud generally takes the lead, while many of the lower do not break into shoots, and frequently none of them do so, unless induced by artificial means. Now it must be borne in mind, that if the shoot be cut back for some portion of its length at the winter pruning, the sap which would otherwise have gone to the upper portion of the shoot, is appropriated by those buds that are left, and it acts with greatest force on those immediately below the cut, three of which are almost invariably stimulated so as to produce shoots. Therefore to secure uniformity in hight and form, the following plan may be adopted:

When the tree has attained a hight of six-and-a-half feet, set up by the side of it a rod or measuring stick six feet long, and then cut off the stem so as to leave three buds only above the top of the rod. The three buds just above the hight of six feet will be most stimulated, and they will seldom fail to push forth shoots from which others must be made to diverge in a regular manner.

Care should be taken to have the young stems of sufficient strength, and also as straight as possible, and foliage should be encouraged. Clean stems are desirable, but in endeavoring to obtain such, their *strength* must not be sacrificed. If laterals push from the shoot of the same summer's growth, they must not be cut clean off. They may be stopped after mid-summer, where they appear insubordinate to the leader, and instead of being cut close to the stem at the winter pruning, if one or two buds are left they will furnish leaves on small shoots in the following summer, which will contribute much towards strengthening the stem. These shoots ought, however, to be stopped in summer.

When the soil is good, and the variety is of vigorous growth, standard pear trees may be raised without cutting back the leader until it attain the required hight of stem. But under less favorable circumstances, a somewhat different mode of proceeding must be adopted. If the leading shoot is found weak, cut it back to near its base. A stronger shoot will result, which must be kept as upright as possible for a leader. Take care to check almost entirely the growth of the two shoots likely to proceed from the buds next to that which furnishes the leader. The leader may be a little shortened in the following season, and in every season until it attain the proper hight. By the time it does this, the base of the stem will have acquired considerable thickness, and although great care is required to keep the shoots erect while young, no stakes are afterwards required.

AMERICAN PLUMS IN ENGLAND.

The Gardener's Chronicle, speaks of the variety of American Plums which have succeeded best in England, as follows:

We are indebted to the Americans for some really valuable plums. Among them the Jefferson holds the first rank; ripening just after the Green Gage, and being quite equal to it in flavor and far superior in beauty, it can not be too highly eulogised. I had some fine fruit in pyramids this season, which, owing to the fine weather in September, slightly shriveled on the trees, and became of a deep golden color, blotched with red; they were full of delicious juice; I thought them superior even to the Green Gage. Denniston's Superb, ripening 8 or 10 days before the Green Gage, is also a valuable plum; this year the fruits were particularly fine from pyramids; Huling's Superb is also a very large and very rich plum; the Autumn Gage, an oval medium-sized yellow plum, is very valuable, as it hangs well on the tree till after the middle of October. Blecker's Scarlet is a useful kitchen plum, remarkable for its hardiness and productiveness. Smith's Orleans, an oval reddish purple plum, has not proved quite equal to its reputation in America. Columbia is a large, round, and very handsome plum, rich and sugary but rather dry, and ripening with a crowd of other sorts, is not so valuable as the first-named varieties. I may here mention that plums in Nottinghamshire, north of Trent, rarely attain their full size and flavor; the climate seems too cool and moist for them, for if large-sized fruit are obtained from trees against walls, flavor is sacrificed. Corse's Nota Bene, an oval purple plum of medium size, is I think a Canadian plum, from Montreal; this is an enormous bearer, withstanding our spring frosts well, and ripening early in August. Plums are becoming most valuable fruit, for owing to several new varieties the dessert and the kitchen can be supplied from the end of July till nearly the end of October.

COFFEE, ITS COST AND CULTURE.

It is believed by many that coffee can be cultivated in some of our southern States as successfully as in Brazil, Java, and Jamaica; if so, it is high time that some of our planters were entering upon its culture, as it costs our country no less than $15,500,000 annually for the beans of this plant.

The coffee tree lives to a great age provided that the land is kept well drained. The tree begins to bear when three years old, and is at its full bearing when seven years old. The tree is allowed to grow in hight from six to seven feet; the top branches are pruned off when the tree is five years old, so that by the time it is seven it resembles a spread umbrella. Each branch droops downwards, and thus gives the pickers a good chance to pick the berry. The coffee tree in Brazil bears two crops each year, the large crop in the spring, and the small one in the fall. The first crop is picked when the berry is red, resembling a cherry. The second crop is in general small, and allowed to remain on the tree until fully ripe and dry. This crop, cured in the husk, is far superior in quality, and is called "pearl coffee." The blossom is beautiful, small, and tender. It remains on the tree from three to four days. If the weather is warm, with showers, during those few days, the crop sure; if cool at nights, it often fails. When the berry is taken home from the field it is carried to a mill-house. The mill consists of three small rollers. The berry is put into a hopper, and a constant stream of water falls on the rollers during the time the mill is at work. By this process the outside hull is taken off and the berry is separated from it, and the coffee falls into a brick tank, where it is washed perfectly clean, and then put on a place covered with tile or brick raised in the center that the water may drain. It is then taken to the curing loft, where it is turned four times a day until the hull is crisp and dry. Then by putting it through large fanners the inside hull comes off, and leaves the berry ready for hand-picking for market.

Scientific American.

"STRAWBERRIES—FINE STRAWBERRIES"!

BY DR. I. M. WARD—NEWARK, N. J.

What cries through the streets are more grateful to the ear, or more potent in causing the mouth to water, than the words we have taken for our caption? We beg you, gentle reader not to suppose your palates are now to be regaled with this most luscious of the smaller fruits. The snow that covers our beds must first be dissolved by the genial rays of the vernal sun—then of all the fruits that grow, will the strawberry first throw up its tender crown, spread out its fingery leaves to drink in from the earth and atmosphere the sustenance nature has adapted to its wants, that ere long will whiten the surface with its flowery covering, and then with rapid strides, develop that delicious crimson morsel, the sight of which moved the poet to sing:

"A dish of ripe strawberries smothered in cream."

Strawberries are universally loved.—Downing says: "We have heard of individuals who really did not by nature relish strawberries," but we confess we have always had the same doubt of their existence as we have of that of the Unicorn. But our task is not now to write in praise of the strawberry, its deliciousness or wholesomeness, although, as a physician, we might claim to say it is a great promoter of digestion, containing so abundantly that mild vegetable acid our natures demand at the return of the season that ushers it in. So medicinal is it regarded, that the celebrated Botanist, Linnæus, is said to have cured himself of a fit of the gout by partaking freely of the strawberry.

Nor have we anything at present to say to the amateur, for we have taken pen in hand for the 'million.' In their behalf we approach the market grower, to discuss with him the varieties best adapted to market, that will bear carriage well, and be most remunerating—rewarding him most abundantly for his attention to it as a field crop.

It has been said, that as many bushels of strawberries can be grown per acre as of potatoes, a fact, startling as it at first may seem, we are now prepared to credit, especially if the land be as well prepared for the crop, and as well attended, while it will prove four-fold more remunerating. Mr. Pardee says he has grown at the rate of two hundred and fifty bushels per acre, and that where good varieties are selected, with moderate cultivation, a hundred and fifty bushels can be calculated upon, and moreover, that fifty cents a bushel, will meet the expense of cultivation.

But the labor and expense of gathering so many tiny berries, and safely conveying such delicate freight to market, to the uninitiated seems a task almost herculean. If a judicious selection of varieties are made, so that only the larger berries are grown, and the culture is such as to give you those in perfection, the labor of gathering is more than half reduced, while the proceeds of the sale are more than doubled. And if in addition to the size, hardness of the berry be regarded, so as to bear carriage well, no more hazard will be incurred in transporting than a thousand other articles of merchandize are subjected to.

To ensure success to the market grower, four characteristic qualities should be regarded as essential. I name them in the order of their importance—*size, hardness, high color* and *productiveness*. The absence of either of these will materially affect the cash net product. With the amateur grower it is all flavor—flavor. The table qualities will weigh more in the scale than all others combined, while the purchaser in the market judges by another standard. With him his eye makes the rule—its enormous size, its splendid crimson color, at once decide the question, and Hovey's Seedling is borne away, while Burr's new Pine, its less brazen faced and more blushing neighbor, of sterling merit, is declared unripe, and left for the knowing ones to luxuriate upon.

Touching the profits of strawberry culture, what do facts teach us? Mr. William Stoms of Cincinnati, in the August No. of the Horticulturist of last year, says: "Mr. Toucey has raised this season, and vended in our city, three hundred and forty bushels of strawberries, grown on ten acres of land. The gross receipts were two thousand, two hundred and ten dollars. The crop was marketed (gathered and sold) at an expense of three hundred dollars, leaving a nett profit of a fraction short of two hundred dollars per acre, while the probable cost of cultivation did not exceed fifteeen dollars per acre. The varieties grown were *Iowas*, called by the market men, Washingtons, *Hovey's Seedling* and *Hudson's*."

Mr. Barry, speaking of the same market, says: "I found immense supplies, consisting in most part of the Iowas, Hudson, the old favorite sort, and Hovey's. The last named sold at 25 cents per quart, the others at 15. The Hovey is not a great bearer, in the judgment of market men, but a solid berry, bearing carriage well and looking fine."

The Iowa is a favorite with them from the fact that it bears immense crops and matures early. The plants never winter out—once planted they take care of themselves—fighting their way even among weeds, so completely covering the ground as to overshadow and pre-ocupy it. The berries are large and easily picked, so that at 15 cents per quart, it is more profitabe to the grower than Hovey's at 25 cents. We have grown it for years, and found it to ripen as soon, if not a little earlier than the early Scarlet, and although inferior in flavor, its enormous size and great productivenes makes it decidedly more desirable for an early market berry.

Mr. Stoms of Cincinnatti, above referred to, says of the Iowa: "More is cultivated of them of any other, because of their early ripening and hardy culture. They are also a more certain crop than any other variety, as a general thing."

At Rochester, Burr's new Pine and Hudson have been the market berries, while in New-York the early Scarlet, called by the market women Scotch Runner, followed by the Crimson Cone, better known as the Pine Apple, and Hovey's Seedling constitute about all the varieties that find their way into market.

The Philadelphia market is much better supplied with choice berries than the New-York market. Hovey's Seedling being more extensively grown as a market berry, the Moyamensing and others of the new varieties, as well as the Iowas and Hudson. With our present knowledge of this subject we should recommend for extensive culture the *Early Scarlet* and *Iowas*, or *Washingtons*, the Hovey Seedling and Crimson Cone—and in the place of the Hudson, Willey & Jenney's Seedling.

Mr. Wilder says: (see Horticulturist, vol. IV, page 132.) "The *Willey*, much like the Hudson, and the *Jenney*, are even more productive." He adds, "Jenney sold, from less than three-quarters of an acre, including about one-fifth of the Virginia, as fertilizers, twenty-seven hundred boxes, of a quart size, and picked five hundred more, making thirty-two hundred—which, at 25 cents, gave him eight hundred dollars, the price at which his crop was engaged.

The following statement we cut from a Boston paper: "As an evidence of the profits of the strawberry culture, we will state that of the variety known as Jenney's Seedling, the following is the product of half an acre:

2,773 boxes, which were sold in the Boston market at wholesale, at 20 cents a box,....................	$554 60
500 boxes used in the family, at 20 cents,............	100 00
	$654 60

Here, as the product of an acre of land that can be cultivated by one man, we have six thousand five hundred and forty-six quarts, which, at the average retail price in our market, will yield $1,636 50. This, as can readily be seen, is an enormously profitable business; but we do not suppose that so large a yield can be relied upon. Three thousand quarts an acre, we believe, may be always calculated upon by good cultivators, and this yield, at 10 cents a quart, will make one of the most lucrative branches of culture that a man can attend to."

Our own observations for some three years past have fully sustained the character here given for productiveness and market value. The comparative value of the Jenney, as a market berry, has led me to place it very high in the scale, having found it uniformly productive, high flavored, of a brilliant crimson color, and uniform size, somewhat above medium. McAvoy's extra Red, Longworth's prolific, Walker's Seedling, Monroe Scarlet, Genesee Seedling, and Moyamensing, among the newer varieties, may very soon take the place of some of the above named, as market berries.

The advantage of cultivating a number of varieties, and especially such a list as we have given, is that the grower has the advantage of the market for a longer period than he can otherwise have. With the Iowa and Early Scarlet he goes into market when the first commands a large price. When they begin to decline, the more showy Hovey and Crimson Cone take their place. By the side of the Hovey appears the Jenney, although not quite as large, more attracting by its richer crimsoned surface, of more decided character, and yielding its fruit long after the Hovey has disappeared. The Willey, as a market fruit, has hitherto enjoyed but little character to which its great productiveness entitle it, especially when connected with its cluster habits—its stalks, when loaded, resembling bouquets of uniform sized, deep scarlet and dry berries—not unfrequently numbering sixty or seventy on a single foot stalk. This cluster form, combined with its dry, solid character, more than atones for its loss of flavor, for a market berry.

PLANT-LICE.

Of all the insects which are injurious to vegetables, none have attracted more attention than the green fly, or plant-lice, not only from the amount of injury which they inflict upon the trees of our orchards, and plants of the garden, but the peculiarly anomalous manner in which the greater number of them are produced. The species are extremely numerous, almost every plant having a different kind, and the habits of many have been thoroughly investigated by naturalists; the effects which they produce upon vegetables are to a great extent mechanical, exhausting the vitality of the plant by the constant drain of sap.

As they pass most of their time in one place, with the rostrum inserted into the cellular tissue of the leaf, young stem, branch or root, pumping its life-blood, and as their name is legion, the quantity thus drawn from its natural channel is very considerable, producing a gradual decay and often, finally, the the death of the plant; some species, however, have apparently a poisonous effect. The changes undergone by the insect have been minutely described by Reaumer, Bounet, Kouber, &c. In the spring and summer the different generations are of one sex, the female; no male appearing until the autumn. The eggs are laid at this time, and the present insects die. Next spring they are hatched, producing, without a single exception, females; these, without fecundation, give birth to a number of living young ones of their own sex, who in turn produce young, repeating the same thing through seven to eleven generations, until the cold weather setting in, puts a stop to it; the last generation, however, consists of males and females, and eggs are again laid.

These summer broods are wingless, but the males of the last brood have well-developed wings. (For an interesting description of the embryonic development of these lice, see a paper of Dr. Burnett, read before the American Association, at the Cleveland meeting.)

The ants use the green fly as milk cows, protecting them from their enemies, and taking great care of them, and may be seen busily engaged among them, drinking the sweet honey dew discharged by the fly from its anal tubercles. Their enemies are the small insectivorous birds; the larva of the lace-winged fly, who devours them by hundreds, and the larva of the little lady-bird beetles; the cocinella, known to every school-boy, "Lady-bird, lady-bird, fly away home," &c.

The lace-winged flies are not so well known, are four-winged, of a green color, about three-fourths of an inch in length, may be seen flying in the warm summer evenings, and when handled emit a most intolerable stench.—Ohio Farmer.

LAYING OUT A GARDEN.

From pretty extensive observation, we have come to the conclusion that one of the most serious and prevalent errors in the management of small gardens, is attempting too much. This grows very naturally out of the desire that almost every man feels to gather round his residence the greatest possible variety of interesting scenes and objects; in other words, to make the most of his limited space. In laying out a garden, the design may be good, and it may, in the first place, be properly executed; but no sooner is this done than new trees or plants are fancied, and probably a neighbor's garden suggests some new walk or divisions, and thus one alteration after another is introduced, and the original plan is effaced, and the whole becomes a piece of patchwork. We have seen many charming little front gardens utterly ruined in this way. Now, the beauty of a small garden, and the pleasure it may afford, lies not in a great variety of embellishments, but in simplicity and high keeping—few walks and few trees.

Numerous walks destroy the unity and extent of a small piece of ground, and add very materially to the cost of keeping; and as a regular gardener is seldom employed in such places, the walks become neglected, and grown over with grass and weeds, resembling more a cattle path than anything else. The principle, therefore, should be rigidly adhered to, of having only such walks as are absolutely indispensable, and these to be kept in the best order. A good, well-kept walk, is not only a great beauty, but a great comfort, whereas nothing is so useless and ill-looking as a bad or neglected one. In most cases a single walk, and that a foot walk, six or eight feet wide, in proportion to the extent of the ground, will be quite enough.

The position of the entrance gate, and the course of the walk, must be determined by the shape of the grounds, and the situation of the front door of the dwelling. If the space between the house and street be narrow—say twenty or thirty feet—and the front door be in the center of the building, the most convenient, and probably the best, arrangement is the common one—having the gate opposite the door, and the walk straight. It would be much better if houses of this kind were so constructed as to have the main entrance at one side, so that the ground in front of the principal rooms might be kept in a lawn, embellished with a few appropriate trees. This would be a more agreeable sight from the windows than a gravel walk, and persons approaching the house would not be directly in front of the windows. When the house stands back a sufficient distance, even if the front door be in the center facing the street, the walk should approach it by as easy curves as possible from one side, leaving the ground in front unbroken. A curved walk, however, is not only inconvenient, but obviously inconsistent, in a very limited space.

Box, and all other kinds of edgings, to walks that run through grass plots, are not only out of place, but add greatly to the expense of planting and keeping. Such things are only appropriate to flower gardens, to make the outlines of walks and beds. Hedges of privet, red cedar, or arbor vitæ, are occasionally planted along the edges of walks, but are entirely superfluous, and have a bad effect, unless to screen a wagon road to outbuildings, or to separate a front garden or lawn from the kitchen garden, or such object as it may be desirable to conceal. Such hedges have also a very good effect when placed immediately behind a low, open, front lawn, when viewed from the dwelling.

Planting, in most of our small gardens, is carried to such an excess as to convert them into miniature forests. There must be the universal row of Horse Chesnuts, or something else within the fence; and then the interior is dotted over closely with all manner of shrubs and plants. A corner is probably cut up into something like a child's flower garden; small beds, filled with tall, straggling plants, lying over the box edgings, covering the walks, and giving to the whole a neglected and confused appearance. Such management displays no taste, and gives no satisfaction.

We would discard these straight rows of trees, and convert the whole surface into as perfect a piece of lawn as could be made. This we would embellish with a few, very few, appropriate trees, mostly evergreens, having as great variety among them as possible, both in regard to habit of growth and that of foliage. The smallest plot, managed on this principle, may be made beautiful.—A single tree, such as a Norway Spruce, a Deodar Cedar, a Hemlock Spruce, or any other fine evergreen, or even a deciduous tree, such as Magnolia, a Tulip tree, a Linden, Horse Chesnut or Mountain Ash, standing on a lawn, having ample space on all sides to develop its fair natural habits and proportions, is always a beautiful object, and cannot fail, though a common tree, to attract attention and admiration; but plant three or four, or half a dozen such trees, where one should be, you crowd each tree into too little space, and you at once destroy the character and expression of the tree, and produce a confused mass, that cannot fail to be disagreeable to every one whose taste has been even slightly cultivated.

Few people seem to appreciate fully the beauty of a piece of lawn—a beauty which is at once cheap and permanent. Most of us desire to be economical, but what economy is there in cutting up small gardens into walks, flower borders and beds, and in planting them all over with trees and plants? These walks and borders need constant care, or they soon become unsightly; they need a constant succession of flowering plants to keep up a display. The culture of flowers along borders and among trees is never successful or satisfactory. They must have a place allotted to themselves, where they can be tastefully grouped and receive proper attention. A very important point is the selection of suitable trees for small gardens. We very often see trees of the largest class planted where there is no room for them, simply because such trees are planted in every garden. The little front gardens of street houses in some of the English towns delight every one who sees them, by the appropriateness of their arrangement and ornaments. A spot of bright green lawn, garnished with two or three Laurels or Rhododendrons, and some climbing Roses and Honeysuckles around the windows, and these all glittering with high polish, like a new coin from the mint—no cutting up into all manner of misshaped beds and borders, no entangled masses of trees and plants.—Horticulturist.

"WHAT IS TRENCHING?"

Asked an intelligent merchant who has just moved into the country. Our first thought was, why, he ought to understand so simple an operation. Our second thought was, why, or how should he? and our third was, we'll describe the operation for his benefit and that of others in like circumstances.

The word trenching is often used indefinitely to signify any method of stirring the soil deeply, either with the spade or plow. Trenching, as used by gardeners, implies digging the ground deeper than a single length of the spade, and is termed "*true*" or "*bastard*" trenching, according to the method in which it is performed. True trenching consists in inverting the soil, placing the surface below the sub-soil. The following figure will illustrate the process.

t	b	d	f	
a	c	e	g	

Fig. 1.

a, b, c, and d severally represent the ends of long trenches extending across the garden.

In the plot of ground represented by fig. 1, dig out the earth two "spits" or spades deep from *t* and *a*, and carry it over to the right side of the plot. Next take out the depth and width of the spade from *b* and put it in the place before occupied by *a*. Then take up another spit from *c* and place it in *t*, over *b*, in the new position. Continue the process in the same manner, putting *d* in place of *c*; *e* in place of *b*; *f* in *e*; *g* in *d*, &c. The last trench upon the right side can be filled with the soil carried over from *t* and *a*.

Bastard trenching consists in stirring the soil two or more spits deep, without sinking the surface soil, and is performed as follows:

Take out the plot *t* and and set it aside to the right, as before described. Then loosen the soil in *a* without removing it. Next set *b* over upon *a* and loosen up *c*. Continue the process in the same manner, putting *d* over *c*, loosening *e*, placing *f* upon it, and so on across the plot.

During the spading process, whether by the first or second method, manure may, and should be worked into both the surface and sub-soil. It is always advisable in bastard trenching to bury as deeply as possible a little of the surface soil, including weeds &c.

Few soils, not before worked deeply, are in a proper condition to admit of true trenching at first, since the sub-soil in *a*, *c* and *e* is not so well fitted for plants as the air-exposed surface soil. On this account we advise to practice bastard trenching first, for a year or two, or else to make the trenches *a*, *c* and *e*, only one-fourth or one-half a spit deep the first year, so as not to bring up too much of the "raw soil" at a time.

While on this subject we will illustrate briefly the method of stirring the soil as deep as three lengths of the spade.

t	v	d	g	
u	b	e	h	
a	c	f	i	

Fig. 2.

For *true* trenching, three spits deep, dig out *t*, *u* and *a*, and carry them to the right, as above. Then put *v* in place of *a*, *b* in place of *u*, and *c* in place of *t*, and so on, moving *d* to *c*, *e* to *b*, *f* to *v*, &c.

For *bastard* trenching, three spits deep, carry away *t*, *u* and *v*; then loosen *a*, working manure into it if need be. This done, set *b* in *u*, and *d* in *t*. We now have *d*, *v* and *b* vacant, and can continue the process by stirring *c*, putting *e* in *b*, and *g* in *v*, &c.

True and bastard trenching may be combined in three spits deep, thus: Remove *t* and *u*; loosen *a*; put *v* in *u*, and *b* in *t*. Then loosen *c*, and put *d* in *b*, *e* in *v*, loosen *f*, and so on.

The process is very simple, is readily performed by the most unskillful workman after a little showing, and it is an effectual method of treating all garden soils. What subsoiling is to the field, trenching is to the garden, only that the latter is more thorough and effectual, and gives an opportunity of applying manures to any part, either of the surface or sub-soil.

Few who have not tried it have any adequate idea of the productiveness and value of a soil thoroughly trenched. Such beets, and currants and parsnips, as will grow upon a soil worked and manured two to three feet deep, must be seen to be appreciated; and the same may be said of all other vegetables, although they be not usually ranked as deep-rooted.

Give the roots of any plant a chance to grow downward, and they will go where they will always find moisture, no matter how hot or how long the sun may shine upon and parch a few inches of the surface.

Our advice in all cases would be, trench every foot of ground devoted to garden culture, at least two, if not three, or four spits deep. *It will pay*—IT WILL PAY WELL.—ED.

PRETTY COLD OUT THERE.—Some one residing near, informed the Cleveland Herald, that it was so cold on January 9th, that the cows had to be driven to the house to *thaw their bags before milking*. Ugh!

ARE YOU GOING TO TRY AN ASPARAGUS BED THIS SPRING?

If so it must be attended to this month. The ground should have been prepared last fall, but probably it was not. We'll say it was not, and see now *how* it is to be done. In the first place choose the location, which of course must be where it will not be disturbed for years to come, nor liable to be washed by heavy rains. Alongside of a garden walk or fence will furnish a convenient place. Any moderately good soil will do to begin operations with.

First lay off a bed as long as may be desirable, but not to exceed four feet in width. Dig up the soil 18 to 24 inches in depth, mixing it with say one-eighth of its bulk of well rotted manure of any kind. (This much should have been done last autumn.) Let the ground thus prepared be left to settle six or eight days. On one or both sides of this bed it is convenient to have an alley eighteen inches wide, and three or four inches deep at first.

When the bed has settled, remove the surface soil to a depth of nine inches, piling the removed soil into the alleys on each side, and level off the new surface of the bed.

Next mark out the rows lengthwise of the bed, one foot from each other, the outer rows being six inches from the alleys. If the ground be coated with sand or sifted ashes, and the marking done on this, it is more convenient. The ashes will also be good for the plants.

Now take the roots and lay them on the marked surface of the prepared bed, nine inches from each other in the rows, and spread their fine roots out well, keeping the crowns or buds on the line.

When the plants are all laid down carefully, cover them with the whole of the soil previously removed. A stock of roots can be obtained of any good gardener, or through a seedsman, and cost in the neighborhood of $6 to $7 a thousand. Two year-old roots only should be purchased.

Nothing needs to be done with the bed during the first season after planting but to keep it clear of weeds. In autumn cover it with a dressing of manure two to three inches deep. In the following spring as soon as the frost is out, fork this manure into the ground, being careful not to injure the plants. A few days after the surface of the bed should be raked off so as to leave a fine and even surface. If good two year-old plants were procured at first, they can be cut somewhat during the second season. In a warm location, with a warm soil, the cutting may begin about the first of June, earlier or later, according to the season. A bed well prepared at first, will last from five to ten years, with no very great care. A top-dressing of manure, forked in carefully, once in a year or two, will be beneficial.—ED.

The prize crop of Indian corn in the State of Ohio, for 1855, was 162 bushels per acre.

DECIDUOUS (LEAF-SHEDDING) SHRUBBERY.

Some of the Best for Small Gardens.

We give here a list and brief description of some of the more choice summer shrubs from which a selection may be made, varying in number with the amount of space at disposal. Unlike the Evergreens, their chief beauty consist in their flowers, rathers than their foliage. They all require to be planted early.

Chinese Weigelia, (Weigelia rosea.) This fine shrub gives a great profusion of pretty rosy, pink flowers. It grows to a moderate size, and blooms in Spring.

Green Forsythia, (Forsythia Viridissima.) This is one of our earliest spring blooming plants. The flowers appear before the leaves. Every shoot is covered with flowers of a bright yellow color, making a conspicuous and beautiful object.

Changeable Hydrangea, (Hydrangea Hortensis.) This plant is well adapted to a small garden or yard, growing as it will in almost any situation or soil. It gives noble heads of flowers, which appear on the tops of the shoots only. It requires some protection during the severe frosts of winter, in order to ensure a fine bloom. This is easily effected by placing a barrel over it when cold weather comes on. Its shoots should not be headed in or shortened, but simply thinned out when pruning is required.

Spirea Bella. This is one of the prettiest of a numerous tribe of summer flowering shrubs. Its flowers are bright pink, and very showy, and the plant neat in habit and requiring little space.

Deutzia Gracelis. A beautiful shrub, bearing a profusion of pure white flowers which resemble the orange blossom. It is a graceful plant, and should be in even the smallest garden.

Chinese Syringa, or Lilac, (Syringa sinensis.) Most persons are familiar with the large bunches of sweet scented flowers produced by this early blooming shrub. It is adapted to almost any situation or soil.

Scarlet Flowering Currant, (Ribes Sanguinea.) This is an extremely beautiful shrub, and should be more generally cultivated. It bears numerous bright flowers in the spring, and should be planted in a rich dry soil, and in a sheltered situation.

Buddlea Lindleyana. A graceful plant, bearing large spikes of purple flowers in great abundance through the latter part of summer and autumn. It does best in a rather dry situation, well exposed, and is very ornamental.

Syringo, (Philadelphus Coronarius.) A large free growing shrub, bearing white flowers of most delicious fragrance, very hardy, and will thrive in any soil or situation.

Japan Quince, (Pyrus Japonica.) A low growing shrub, with brilliant scarlet flowers, exceedingly showy in the spring.

Spiræa Reevesii. A summer blooming plant, bearing pure white flowers in abundance, and one of the best white Spiræa's.

Snowball, or Guelder Rose, (Viburnum Opulus.) A hardy, strong growing shrub, very ornamental with its round heads of white flowers, which are produced in early spring.—Ed.

DIELYTRA SPECTABILIS—A NEW AND BEAUTIFUL FLOWERING PLANT.

PRACTICAL DIRECTIONS FOR ITS CULTIVATION.

This charming plant, which has recently been introduced, is a native of China, and is one of the most elegant ever received from that extraordinary country. It has much the habit and the hardy character of the herbaceous Peonys, and like them delights in a rich, deep, loamy soil. It can be grown, however, in any common garden soil. It is also cultivated with facility, and will bloom very freely in a pot of two-quart size. For a vase we know of no plant equal to it. So also for the lawn, in solitary specimens, it is one of the finest. It may be massed in small beds, but the number of plants should not exceed five to seven in a bed.

When used for the vase, and a good show of bloom is desired through the summer, young plants of one year's growth from the border should be selected, since from the nature of the plant, its vigor and blooming qualities will depend upon the strength of its tuber or roots. A vase, or any ornamental vessel holding a gallon or more of earth can be used.

Take up the plants in October, being careful not to break off the buds, which are very prominent and brittle, and easily broken. A portion of its roots, if necessary, in order to fit it in the vase, can be cut off without detriment to the plant. Fill in with good, rich earth—if a good strong loam so much the better—have it well packed in and then water to settle the earth around the roots.—They may be left out of doors or placed in a cold frame, until it is desired to start them into growth.

If wanted for winter blooming in the greenhouse, leave them out of doors until the first week in December, and they can be had in bloom in the early part of January.

If wanted for ornamental purposes through the summer, the best plan will be to plunge them to the rim of the vase in the ground, providing the frost will not injure the vessel used. If the vessel will not stand the frost, they can be placed in any cool place or cellar, until spring opens, when they should be brought out as early as practicable.

When planted on the lawn, protect them through the winter with a little brush, to prevent the buds being broken off or injured. The plants may be taken up and divided the third year, and the soil enriched or renewed. Those plants used for vases should be changed every third year, as they will become weakened from the limited amount of nourishment received from the small quantity of soil around them. Young plants must be provided for that purpose, and the old plants can be turned out upon the border. There are few plants cultivated with the same facility, and adapted to so many ornamental purposes as this, and we cannot too highly recommend it to have a place in every garden, however small.—Ed.

For the American Agriculturist.

WINTER FLOWERS.

A LADY'S EXPERIENCE.

Flowers should have a place in every one's yard. I know there are some surly, selfish persons, devoid of true taste who consider that the space occupied by them would be much more appropriately filled by potatoes and cabbage, yet I trust that this race is fast becoming extinct. I have often heard a friend remark that he always judged of a man's character by the size and arrangement of his door-yard, providing he had the arrangement of it himself. This I consider to be an excellent criterion. If a yard is broad and ample, abounding in shrubberry and trees, with the appropriate places for flowers filled with choice and elegant varieties of annual and perennial plants, you may be assured that the owner is a person of taste and refinement, whose heart is something larger than a nut-shell, and capable of deriving enjoyment from something besides dollars and cents. If on the other hand, but a narrow, sterile strip of land intervenes between the house and road, with no ornament save a neglected sunflower or hollyhock, and perhaps not that, it strongly betokens the man of narrow, sordid mind and dull inactive intellect, whose highest aspiration in life would scarcely exceed that of a moderately ambitious animal of the porcupine breed. I think the relationship between him and the one who said that "the yard would look tolerable decent if the old women would keep them posey beds out," is too evident to be disputed.

With but comparatively little care and attention one may have a continual succession of beautiful and fragrant flowers, from the Crocus and Snowdrop of early spring to the richly-hued Dahlia of the late autumnal days. That they pay exactly "in dollars and cents," as we Yankees are too apt to wish, no one will assume, but that they do repay us by awakening a love of the beautiful in Nature, by creating and increasing an attachment for home, and by inspiring richer feelings and emotions, higher than those who do not cultivate them can feel, none but the most incorrigible misanthrope will deny.

With the cold breath of winter all these beauties vanish; the earth is no longer decked with their varying hues, but it is strown with their dying and withered leaves. This leads me back to the idea which promted me to take up my pen—that of the satisfaction of having flowers in winter. It does certainly engender a pleasurable feeling to see a rich Petunia or velvet rose hang side by side with an icicle, with but a thickness of glass between them.

To possess these sources of gratification, no hot-house or conservatory is necessary, nothing being required but a warm room, and a window accessible to sunlight. Our living-room has two large windows fronting to the south. On the sill of each is nailed a plain shelf large enough to hold four or five pots. Out of eight varieties, six are in full bloom, and the seventh is budding. I have no costly exotics, no Pelargoniums, Japonicas or Camellias, but simple Petunias, Verbenas, Roses, Pinks, and also the modest Polyanthus, and more showy Pirethrum. The two last will keep well in the cellar, and even out of doors in some circumstances, but their superior blossoming qualities mitigated the half spoken sentence and saved them from a gloomy incarceration, and fully have they repaid me for extra care. A thrifty cactus was consigned relentlessly to the cellar, because I knew from former experience that it would in no wise pay for care and nursing, whereas the winter's sleep would but invigorate it for the summers campaign.

My "modus operandi," is very simple, and one which any person may practice. In the fall I selected for the windows, those plants which gave promise of bloom, and transferred the remainder to the cellar. With daily watering they prospered well enough, till the cold nights came on, when it was no longer safe to have them by the window, for Jack Frost would be sure to come along and pinch them with his cold fingers. I accordingly procured a plank of sufficient size, with a hole in each corner to admit sticks which should be long enough to reach the hight of the highest plant. This after being thoroughly warmed before commencing operations, is supported about two feet from the floor, near the stove, and the pots all placed upon it. Whatever covering is deemed requisite is then thrown over the top, being prevented from breaking down the plants, by the sticks before mentioned. In the morning they are removed to the windows. By this method I have preserved my plants through the past severe winter, and am now reaping my reward. I often heard complaints of inability to keep plants in winter on account of freezing, and have taken the liberty to relate my experience, hoping it may be of service to some lovers of flowers. LIBBIE.

St. Johnsville, N. Y., 1856.

For the American Agriculturist.

TO MY SISTERS UPON THE FARM.

HINTS ABOUT WORK FOR THE SEASON AND OTHER MATTERS.—BY ELIZA.

While winter still lingers with us, and before the labors of the dairy and the plow have fairly commenced, is the time for farmer's wives and daughters to attend to many little conveniences both within doors and without, which the severity of the season has hitherto prevented from receiving due attention. Now, while you can have the assistance of a stronger arm than either your own, or that of the "female help," is the time for clearing out your cellars, whitewashing hen-roosts, and preparing nests for the poultry, who will commence laying and setting sooner or later, according to the care you have bestowed upon them during the winter.

If you intend beautifying the exterior of your dwelling, and think the time and expense given to trees and vines is well repaid by the air of elegance and taste it imparts to your homes, now is the time to make a selection. A late number of the Agriculturist contained a list of an agreeable variety of roses, and among them are many well worth their cost. Choose *hardy* plants, of any kind you may like, as but few farmer's daughters have much time to spend upon exotics, which are costly in the first place, and require a more even temperature in winter than can always be commanded in an ordinary farmhouse. A few dollars spent every spring in the purchase of shade trees and shrubbery would give a very different aspect to the farm houses throughout our land; and, if in this country we *must* reckon the value of everything according to the amount of money it would bring if brought into market, nothing more enhances that value than a little attention to exterior effect.

This is a matter which comes almost entirely under the active superintendence of the females. The *head* of the family is apt to express his opinion "that one green leaf is as good as another to look at," and a few cherry trees around the door might satisfy "the women;" forgetting, or not caring to notice that cherry trees near the house are a great nuisance in "fly time," and that the falling of the leaves so soon after the fruit, destroys both their beauty and utility as shade trees. But I have no expectation that I shall be able to overcome these prejudices, or that I can persuade them of the necessity of outward adornment; it is to their wives and daughters I must look for all those little home attractions which add so much insensibly to the cheerfulness and happiness of themselves and their children.

There are many indoor comforts of which this dreary winter has made us feel the need, but to which the intense cold has prevented us from attending. If your imagination has become excited or your ambition stirred by the descriptions of home-made furniture, with which you have been occasionally favored in the columns of the Agriculturist, from several writers, there is no time better than the present for selecting boxes, and preparing materials for stuffing and covering them. Cut-straw, chaff, or sawdust will do for the former; for the latter pieces of carpeting, shilling-chintzes, and moreen are suitable. Nailing and sawing boards is laborious work for females, and you may be glad of a little assistance from a stouter hand. And as it must be confessed that chaff and sawdust are not cleanly things within doors, it is better to adjourn to the barn to perform the upholstery, which at this season may safely be done.

I wonder frequently that the children of intelligent farmers spend so little of the winter season over books. The boys, to be sure, go to school or to trades, but the girls, occupied with their interminable patchwork, seem to consider that time lost which is not spent in joining together pieces of calico the size of a shilling, and watching it gradually growing into the orthodox three yards square—forming at least something more expensive and far less useful and pretty than a white counterpane which can be purchased at one-fourth the cost. But I am heterodox on the subject of patch-work, and like most prophets am considered of no authority in my own country, and the matter having been touched upon by an able hand in the Agriculturist, I will not indulge in the invectives which crowd my pen, but pass on to a pleasanter theme.

In most parts of New-Jersey, good schools abound both for males and females, and our farmers' daughters possess advantages for mental cultivation not possible in less thickly settled or newer States. But I know of very few instances in which they have availed themselves of their opportunities to their full extent. And it is the more remarkable as they eagerly seek after and copy many of the meretricious accomplishments of the day, which tend neither to the elevation of the heart, the mind or the character. That the manual labor expected of a farmer's wife is not incompatible with rigid discipline of the intellect and a systematic pursuit of knowledge, can be better illustrated by a case in point.

There resided not far from this vicinity, within the memory of the "oldest inhabitant," a lady whose early educational advantages had been those ordinarily enjoyed by country girls some fifty years ago. Married at an early age to a thriving farmer, whose hundreds of acres demanded all the care, attention and industry, of which both were capable, she found a large family of children growing up around her, deprived of the same opportunities which she had coveted for herself. At that time schools were less numerous and more expensive than now, and few farmers could afford to educate all his children well. But the same energy of purpose that governed her in the performance of more homely duties, was now with characteristic determination brought to bear upon those of a holier nature. She determined that her children should be educated and that she herself would become their teacher. She marked out a course of conduct which she rigidly followed for many years. Allowing herself but four hours for sleep, she devoted the time thus redeemed to a careful analysis of the ordinary English branches, pursuing her studies gradually until she mastered many of the Natural sciences, and eventually became capable of instructing her children in the classics. This you will tell me is an extreme case; but one-fourth of the energy thus expended would accomplish one-fourth of the results, and how vast those results may be, eternity alone can tell. In this case they were of the most gratifying description. Among her immediate descendants are those who occupy, both judicially and clerically, the most responsible situations in their native State, and even to the third generation they bless, and venerate the memory of this mother, ascribing to her Christian influence and indomitable perseverance, whatever is great, good or estimable in their circumstances and character.

[The lady referred to above was the mother of Hon. Henry W. Green, Chief Justice of New-Jersey, and the grand-mother of Rev. Wm. H. Green, professor of Oriental and Biblical Literature in Princeton Theological Seminary.—ED.]

Those who touch vermillion become red, and those who touch ink become black; so people take their character from their companions.

POULTRY WANTED.—For several weeks past we have had inquiry after inquiry for various kinds of poultry, eggs, &c. As we are not engaged in a commission business we cannot undertake to supply these orders, nor even to answer all the inquiries. Those who have poultry or other things to sell should make it known through the regular business columns, giving prices and other particulars.

RASPBERRIES.—Those who inquired about the Cattawissa Raspberry, last summer, will find it advertised in this number.

COLD WEATHER AT THE SOUTH.—J. A. writes from Jackson, Clark Co., Ala., Feb. 26: "I live in latitude 31° 27', at an elevation of only 300 feet above the Gulf. On the first Monday of this month the thermometer, at 6 o'clock, A. M., stood at 8°, and the barometer at 28.7.

Mr. A. Clem writes from Shenandoah Springs, Va., March 12th: "The weather is very cold. The peach trees are all frozen, and many of them killed. A light crop of wheat is expected. The ground is very wet and freezes very hard at nights, which, with the day's thawing, will destroy many of the roots of winter grain."

THE HOG TRADE.—The Cincinnati Price Current of February 26, gives the returns of the number of hogs packed in 145 places in the west, showing an increase in the number as compared with last year of 214,000, and an increase in the weight equal to 217,300. About 70 places are yet to be heard from. The average increase in weight is 12 per cent.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &c.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, March 28, 1856.

The past month has been a gradual tapering down of the long winter; the Almanac is about the only thing that assures us that we are now near the close of the first month of Spring. Business has not, till very recently, resumed its usual activity at this season of the year. On the 7th inst., the Railroads leading westward were completely blocked up by snow, almost or quite as badly as at any time in January or February.

The transactions in Grain and Breadstuffs have been quite small The continued favorable prospects of peace in Europe have depressed prices, and holders of Flour and grain have been anxious to sell. Our statements last autumn, that there were large stores of these commodities at the west, that would be held over and sold at lower prices this spring than could then be obtained, are being proved true. Recent investigations instituted in the Daily Times office show the western store-houses to be quite full; thus, we learn that at Chicago there is an available stock, equivalent to 30,000 bbls. of Flour; 150,000 bushels of Wheat; 100,000 bushels of Corn, and 25,000 bushels of other varieties of grain. Along the Illinois River, from Ottawa to Peoria, there is in store a stock of over 1,000,000 bushels of Corn. At Bath, Ill., the reported stock of Corn, in store, exceeds 175,000 bushels, with nearly as much more expected to reach that point ere the resumption of navigation. At Lockport, Morris and Jolliet, Ill., there are about 200,000 bushels of Corn available. At Milwaukee, Wis., the stock of breadstuffs is computed at about 55,000 bbls. Flour, 275,000 bushels of grain, chiefly Wheat. At Buffalo, N. Y., the latest calculation placed the stock a little above 60,000 bbls. of flour, and 700,000 bushels of grain—the latter consisting principally of Wheat. The available stock in New-York and vicinity is variously estimated as somewhat near 250,000 bbls. of Flour, 300,000 bushels of Wheat, and 500,000 bushels of Corn, with an unusually large amount of Oats, and an ample stock of Rye. The above, taken in connection with the large amounts known to be in the hands of farmers, does not afford very bright prospects for those who have their last year's product still on hand. It is foolish, however, to go into dispair, as some have recently done—leading to suicide and insanity in two instances at least. All endeavored to plan for the most favorable results, and they should calmly and resignedly endure whatever consequences may now arise.

We find upon our note-book, records of sales of Breadstuffs for 25 business days ending to-day: of Flour, 257,700 barrels; of Wheat, 116,000 bushels; of Corn, 803,300 bushels; of Rye, 126,500 bushels; and of Barley, 16,200 bushels. Our last report, (Feb. 28) for 30 business days gave of Flour, 276,650 bbls.; of Wheat, 141,200 bushels; of Corn, 606,300 bushels; of Rye, 230,000 bushels; and of Barley, 36,300 bushels.

The following figures show the present price of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

		Feb. 29.	March 29.
Flour—Ordinary State		$6 62@ 6 75	$6 87@ 7 00
Mixed Western		6 62@ 6 75	6 75@ 7 00
Favorite and Ex. State		6 87@ 7 50	7 12@ 7 50
Extra Genesee		8 37@10 50	8 50@10 50
Wheat—Canada White		1 75@ 1 90	1 75@ 2 00
Southern White		1 75@ 2 05	1 75@ 2 00
Southern Red		1 45@ 1 70	1 62@ 1 75
Western Red		1 25@ 1 55	1 37@ 1 62
Corn—Western Mixed		72@ 75	68@ 70
New Yellow and White		73@ 75	65@ 70
Rye		1 10@ 1 15	1 13@ 1 14
Barley		1 12@ 1 23	1 20@ 1 30
Oats—Western		30@ 46	31@ 45
Cotton—Middling		10¼@ 10¾	10¾@ 10¾
Rice	₱ 100lbs	4 25@ 5 12	4 00@ 4 75
Pork—Mess	₱ bbl.	15 75@16 25	16 00@16 25
Dressed Hogs	₱ lb.	7½@ 8¼	7¾@ 9
Lard, in bbls	₱ lb.	10½@ 11	10@ 10½
Butter—Western	₱ lb.	17@ 21½	16@ 21
State	₱ lb.	24@ 28	21@ 28
Potatoes-Carters	₱ bbl.	1 75@ 1 88	1 75@ 2 25
Mercers	₱ bbl.	2 00@ 2 12	1 50@ 1 75
Onions—Reds	₱ bbl.	1 88@ 2 00	1 25@ 1 50
White	₱ bbl.	2 25@ 2 75	2 00@ 2 25
Apples	₱ bbl.	1 75@ 2 75	1 50@ 2 50

Beef cattle were in very short supply at the first two market days of the month (5th and 12th). On the 12th there was the smallest supply of animals we have ever known offered in this market. On the 19th and 26th there was a surplus—the total city receipts of beeves for the two weeks ending on the 26th, being some 8,850, or 4,425 for each week. For this week we quote Premium cattle 10½c.a11c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 9c.a10c.; Medium quality 8c.a9c.; Poor quality, 7c.a7½c.; Poorest quality, 6½c.a7c.; General selling prices 8c. a10c. Average of all sales about 8½c.a9c.

Apples, Potatoes, and other roots and vegetables are falling in price somewhat with the opening of spring.

THE WEATHER.—A single paragraph will suffice as a record for the month. Beginning with considerable snow upon the ground which has slowly melted away at midday, the weather has very gradually moderated, but snow still lies in sheltered spots, and in few places is the frost out of the ground. The prospect for the appearance of wild flowers, during the first week of April, is exceedingly slim. This morning the thermometer stood at 24°–8 degrees below freezing. We have had three considerable falls of snow this month, and to-day we had a small flury. Taken as a whole the weather during March, has been very like that of December in ordinary years inverted.

ADVICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Those who offer articles for sale often fail to receive the full benefit of their advertisements, simply because they do not state *particulars* as to price, forwarding, &c. During the past month we have spent nearly one-fourth of our time in answering private letters of inquiry about fertilizers, stock, bees, poultry, &c., &c., (often paying postage ourselves.) We are good-natured, we believe, and willing to do a favor to any one, especially for our subscribers or advertisers, but we have not been able to do half asked us, for several weeks past. The days have not been long enough.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

By the column or half column, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

FARMER WANTED IMMEDIATELY.—A man who understands well the care of stock and general farming operations, may hear of an excellent situation by addressing L. COXE, at the Office of this paper, or calling here for his address. N. B.—An American, English, or Scotch farmer desired. 110-11n13

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasonable price. R. L ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st. N. Y.

NEW CHINESE POTATO—(OR YAM.) DIOSCOREA BATATAS.—By recent arrivals we have received further supplies, sound in the best possible condition. Price $3 per dozen or $20 per 100, carefully and properly packed for transport to any part of the Union.

They are sent to us direct by the parties mainly instrumental in introducing and disseminating them through France and Europe; and we can with the fullest confidence warrant them to be the true and genuine White variety (Imperial Rice) of this new and interesting esculent, and of a quality equal to any anywhere to be procured. Printed descriptions, with directions for their culture, furnished to purchasers and applicants inclosing a stamp. Having arranged for a large and regular supply at intervals to the end of the planting season, we can meet all demands; and in a few days shall be able to fill the orders of dealers and others, in quantity and possibly at reduced rates.

JAS. M. THORBURN & CO.,
Seedsmen, Nurserymen, &c., No. 15 John-st., New York.

Every approved variety of Vegetable, Flowor, Grass, and Agricultural Seeds, of only the finest qualities, in large or small quantities. Priced Catalogues mailed to applicants, inclosing a three cent stamp.

OUR CATALOGUE OF AGRICULTURAL BOOKS,
COMPRISING SEVENTY-FIVE DIFFERENT BOOKS ON
AGRICULTURE,
WILL BE SENT POSTAGE FREE TO
all who will favor us with their name and address.

Among the books recently published by us are:

Chorlton's Grape-Grower's Guide. 60c.
Reemelin's Vine-Dresser's Manual. 50c.
Cranberry Culture. 60c.
Strawberry Culture. 50c.
Elliott's American Fruit-Grower's Guide. $1 25.
The Stable Book. $1.
Boussingault's Rural Economy. $1 25.
Thompson on Food of Animals. 75c.
Practical Land-Drainer 50c.

For sale by all Booksellers, or sent by us free of postage, on receipt of price. C. M. SAXTON & CO.,
—111n45 Agricultural Book Publishers, 140 Fulton-st., N. Y.

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz: Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—DRAINING and IRRIGATION in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission.

SHIPMAN & HAMMOND.
111—121n48 No. 63 Trinity Buildings. 111 Broadway, N.Y.

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York, offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf PEAR, CHERRIES, PEACHES, PLUMS, and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthami ana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—116

THORBURN'S NEWARK NURSERIES At East Newark, N. J, 15 minutes by Railroad from Jersey City. Cars leave each end nearly every half hour through the day. Purchasers are invited to examine the large stock (200 acres) and superior quality of FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, EVERGREENS, SHRUBS, VINES, &c., grown at these Nurseries. Lists will be priced on application for Nurserymen or parties requiring quantities of Trees for Rural Cemeteries, Parks or extended plantations; and attention is particularly asked to the very large stock of Norway Spruce. Scotch Fir, Weymouth Pine, Deciduous Cypress, Mountain Ash, Magnolias, Macrophylla, New Silver Abeles, Maples, Catalpas, Willows, &c., &c., which by the quantity will be put at low rates.

Retail Catalogues furnished on application. Orders may be sent to S. J. GUSTIN, Nurseryman, Newark, N. J, or to
—111n50 J. M. THORBURN & CO., 15 John-st., N. Y.

GARDEN, FIELD and FLOWER SEEDS.—A large supply of the most desirable varieties of Garden Seeds; a choice and good supply of Flower Seeds; and Grass Seeds of all kinds. Field Seeds—Wheat, Oats, Corn, Barley, &c.

We take great care to have all our seeds fresh and best of their kinds, and offer them for sale at wholesale or retail on most favorable terms.

R L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

FLOWER SEEDS.—The attention of amateurs is invited to the following—of very finest qualities:

	PER PACKET.
New Pæony flowered German Asters	25 cts.
New Perfection do. do.	25
New very Dwarf do. do.	12½
New Globe do. do.	12½
New Flat flowered do. do.	12½
New large-flowered German ten-weeks stocks	12½
New wall flower leaved do. do.	12½
New Dwarf do. do.	12½
New Pæony flowered Poppy	12½
New large flowered German Scabius	12½
New Superb Antirrhinum	12½
New Pure White Collinsia	25
New Pure White Godetia	25
New Orange Portulaca	12½
New Phlox Drummondii (Queen Victoria)	12½
Whitlavia grandiflora	25
Eschscholtzia tenuifolia	25
Extra fine White Picotee—from named flowers	50
Extra fine Yellow Picotee—from named flowers	50
Extra fine Flake Carnation	50
Camellia Japonica	25
Orange Globe Amaranthus	6¼
New Dwarf Calceolaria	50
New Superb Spotted Calceolaria	50
New Dwarf Cineraria	50
Gaura Lindheimeria	12½
Lindheimeria Texana	25
Nierembergia Calycina	25

With nearly one thousand others, for which see our Descriptive Catalogue of Flower Seeds for 1856—sent to applicants inclosing a stamp.

J. M. THORBURN & CO.,
Seedsmen, &c,
110—11n30 No. 15 John-st., New-York.

SUPERB DOUBLE DAHLIAS.—We shall offer this Spring our usual complete assortment, including among other New Prize sorts:

English Varieties.

BARON ALDERSON—Bright orange, tipped with white.
NIGGER—Dark maroon, the best dark flower yet produced.
RINGLEADER—Scarlet Crimson.

French and German Varieties.

BERNARD DE MENTHON—Saffron yellow.
HELOISE—Deep purplish rose on yellow grounh.
LOUIS EBLING—Clear lilac.
INCARNATA ROSEA—Blush edged with rose.
MALVINA—Bright purplish rose.
QUASI-MODO—Rose tipped on buff ground.
SPOHR—Rosy purple on yellow ground.

"Beside many other new ones, and the most perfect and free blooming of previous years.

Young plants in pots will be ready for sending out on the 1st of May. Dry sound roots of the older fine sorts can be supplied at any time.

Descriptive Catalogue (No. 3) sent gratis.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
Mount Hope Nurseries,
March, 1856.—111n46 Rochester, N. Y.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

PRICES FOR SPRING AND AUTUMN, 1856.

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st, New-York,
111—tfn41 or at New-Rochelle, N Y

NEW-ROCHELLE OR LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—The subscribers having devoted much attention to the cultivation of this new species of Blackberry for a number of years, have now the largest area of ground in cultivation of any in the country. Their Nursery, while in bearing, has been visited by thousands of persons from all parts of the States, and by all pronounced to be the "ne plus ultra."

Orders will be filled from our Grounds with great pleasure, at the following prices: One half-dozen, $2 50; One dozen, $5 00 Fifty, $12 50, and One Hundred, $25.

GEO. SEYMOUR & CO.
South-Norwalk, Conn., Jan. 20, 1850. 109—112n2

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—116n1212N14 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

NEW-ROCHELLE (LAWTON) BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants for sale, on liberal terms, by the subscriber,

SIMEON LESTER,
109—111n5 New-Rochelle, Westchester Co., N. Y.

CATAWISSA RASPBERRY—Cultivated and for sale at the Nursery of JOSHUA PIERCE, at Washington. D. C. A new and ever-bearing variety, producing abundant crops of fine fruit during the fall months.

Price of plants for spring and summer of 1856:

Good strong plants grown in pots last year, with ball and roots entire, at $2 per plant, or $20 per dozen.

Small plants for spring of 1856, $1 each.
do do do $10 per dozen.

Growing plants in pots, fit for transportation during summer months:

Single plant, and boxing, $2. Do., without boxing, $1.
One dozen, boxing included, $12.

Subscriptions will be received for plants to be delivered in the fall of 1856 or 1857, at $6 per dozen, or at $40 per hundred.

Plants of the above can be packed and forwarded with safety at any time during the summer months to any part of the United States, if accessible by Adams' Express, in eight or ten days, at a small expence, so that no uneasiness need be felt about the time of planting.

Orders enclosing cash will be promptly attended to. —11n47

EVERGREEN TREES.

ADAMS & MORRILL, Portland, Maine, will furnish and forward to all parts of the United States, ARBOR VITÆ, BALSAM FIR, SPRUCE, PINE, HEMLOCK, LARCH, SUGAR MAPLE, and other Forest Trees, at their usual prices. Priced lists sent to applicants.

ALSO,

8,000 Houghton's American Gooseberry Plants. 109—tfn7

FINE FRENCH LAWN GRASS—A mixture in general use for Park and Lawn purposes in France and the South of Europe—the basis of the mixture being a grass (a variety of Agrostis) of remarkably dwarf habit, dispensing with the necessity for frequent mowing, and retaining its rich green hue through the heats of summer. Price for the mixture, $5 per bushel; the Grass alone, $4, or 25 cents a quart. From two to four bushels seed an acre. For sale by
111n41 J. M. THORBURN & CO., 15 John-st., New-York.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil. Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water st., New-York.

TO FARMERS AND GARDENERS.—The subscriber offers for sale a new and VERY EARLY Seedling Potato, of his own raising, which for productiveness, hardiness, early maturity, and fine table qualities, is believed to be superior to any other variety in cultivation. Being a white Potato, and larger and more productive than the "Early June," and quite as early, it will be found particularly valuable for the Market Gardener. From four years experience with this Potato under circumstances well calculated to test its comparative merits, the undersigned has no hesitation in recommending it to the public as a valuable variety.

PRICE—$4 per barrel, delivered at the Railroad Depot or Steamboat Landing at Hudson.

REFERENCES—S.K. Hogeboom and Wm. E. Miller, Esqr's., Claverack; or Edward Livingston, Esq., Hudson.

Address E, G. STUDLEY,
110—11n37 Claverack, Columbia Co., N. Y.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS;
FIELD and GARDEN SEEDS;
No. 1 PERUVIAN GUANO;
SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME;
CHARCOAL DUST; POUDRETTE: PLASTER for land purposes; BONE, fine and coarse, &c.

MAGIC CORN AND COB MILL.—This mill has improvements over all other corn mills, and requires less power. For sale at the North River Agricultural Warehouse.

GRIFFING, BROTHER & CO.,
110—112n22 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades. Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

ISABELLA AND CATAWBA GRAPE VINES, of proper age for forming Vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fifteen years has conferred on the Croton Point Vineyards, are offered to the public. Those who may purchase will receive such instructions for four years, as will enable them to cultivate the Grape with entire success provided their locality is not too far north.

All communications addressed to R. T. UNDERHILL, M. D., New-York, or Croton Point, Westchester County, N. Y., will receive attention.

The additional experience of three past seasons gives him full assurance that, by improved cultivation, pruning, &c., a crop of good fruit can be obtained every year, in most of the Northern, all of the Middle, Western and Southern States.

N. B.—To those who take sufficient to plant six acres, as he directs, he will, when they commence bearing, furnish the owner with one of his Vinedressers, whom he has instructed in his mode of cultivation, and he will do all the labor of the vineyard, and insure the most perfect success. The only charge, n reasonable compensation for the labor.

Also, APPLE-QUINCE TREES, (which are sometimes called the Orange Quince,) for sale as above.

109—11n2 R T. U.

CRANBERRY PLANTS of the Bell variety are best adapted to general culture—they bear large crops on poor, wet and boggy land, where nothing else will grow. UPLAND CRANBERRY PLANTS, which grow on poor, hill-side, and cold, barren soils, bear enormous crops of small red berries—superior in flavor to Low-land Berries.

ALSO,

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY VINES.

Circulars relating to price, culture, soil, &c., will be forwarded to applicants by inclosing a letter-stamp to

F. TROWBRIDGE,
Dealer in Trees, Plants, Roses, Vines, &c.
109—11n1 New-Haven, Conn.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,
(QUEENS PATENT,)

THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—116n1190N8

$1000 PREMIUM

FOR BEST MOWING MACHINE, 1856.

THE Trustees of the "Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture" hereby give notice that the premium of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS for the best Mowing Machine, is now open to all competitors.

To entitle any one to compete for the Premium, he must enter the Mowing Machine, with full particulars of its principles of construction, weight, and selling price, with the subscriber, on or before the first day of JUNE, 1856.

Every competitor will be required, at his own cost, to exhibit to and submit a trial of his Machine to the Trustees, upon not less than five acres of grass land.

The Trustees likewise reserve the right of ordering further trials upon land of their selection, if they think it expedient or necessary to do so.

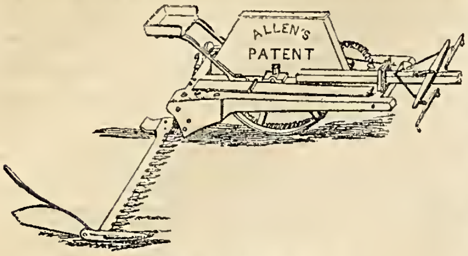
No competitor will be allowed to enter more than one Machine of a similar principle of construction, and he must have the legal right to make, sell and exhibit the same and those of a similar construction, for use within the State of Massachusetts.

The Trustees reserve the right of withholding the award of the Premium and continuing it for another year, if no Machine is exhibited which in their opinion, does not by its labor and expense-saving properties over the common method of scythe mowing, recommend itself for general introduction and use.

Any further information will be given to persons applying for the same, by addressing the subscriber.

THOMAS MOTLEY, Jr.,
March 15.—111—113n39 Jamaica Plain, Mass.

THE BEST MOWING MACHINE.



ALLEN'S

PATENT IMPROVED

MOWING MACHINE,

strong, simple in construction, not liable to get out of order,

COMPACT, LIGHT, EASY OF DRAUGHT,
and may be worked with a
slow gait by horses or oxen.
No clogging of knives.

Works well on rough land—side hills—salt and fresh meadows, &c., and in any kind of lodged grass and clover.

Manufactured at the Agricultural Implement Manufactory and for sale at the Warehouse of R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York

I publish a few out of more than one hundred testimonials of similar import in my possession, from well known and highly respectable farmers who have used the machine the past season:

R. L. ALLEN, Dear Sir—I have used your Mowing Machines the past season: it did its work well, and is as near perfect as any thing I can imagine. My clover was very heavy—over three tuns to the acre—very badly down and matted. I tried all I could to break the machine, with fair usage, without success. It needed no repair, was not out of order, and is now as good as the day I purchased it. Yours respectfully,
Astoria, Queens Co., N. Y., Oct. 17, 1855. J. K. HERRICK.

The Mowing Machine (Allen's patent) I purchased of you last summer, has given me much satisfaction, both for its saving of labor and its easy working and convenient arrangement. Its operation is admirable. I worked it with oxen; their walk is fast enough to do the work of six or eight men. In one hour we cut about an acre. The stouter the grass, the better; and its being lodged makes no difference. One great recommendation is, that the machine did not get out of order during the whole season, except the breaking of one tooth by striking a stump. The contrast, in this respect, with other machines in my neighborhood—which were continually being sent to the blacksmith's shop, or else standing idle in the field—was very agreeable. It gives me pleasure to endorse yours as the BEST MACHINE.
Croton Falls. N. Y., Oct. 18, 1855. T. R. LEE.

I must say your mower is superior in its operation to either of the favorite mowers of last season, and I have seen no other that comes up to it. As to the quantity of grass it will cut, be assured 'twill cut enough, and well enough, to satisfy any man.
Stockport, N. Y., Oct. 24, 1855. R. JUDSON.

ATKINS' AUTOMATON:

OR,

SELF-RAKING REAPER AND MOWER,

BEST MACHINE IN USE.

1 (the first) used in 1852.
40 used successfully in 1853.
300 in twenty different States in 1854.
1200 in all parts of the Union in 1855.
3000 building for the harvest of 1856.

THERE ARE SIX GOOD REASONS for this unparalleled increase and great popularity: 1st. It is strong and reliable, and easily managed. 2d. It saves the hard labor of Raking. 3d. It saves at least another hand in binding. 4th. It saves shattering by the careful handling in raking; besides, the straw being laid straight, it is well secured in the sheaf, and does not drop in the after handling, and the heads are not exposed in the stack, so that the GRAIN SAVING even exceeds the LABOR SAVING. 5th. It is a good Mower, being one of the best convertible machines in use. 6th. It has a knife that does not choke.

Its other excellencies, too numerous to mention here, are fairly given in the circulars. Its intrinsic worth is also attested by the award (mostly in only 3 years) of

OVER 70 FIRST PREMIUMS!

PRICE.—Reaper and Mower, $200—$75 on its receipt, $75 first September, and $50 first December. Price of Self-Raking Reaper only $175. Considerable saving in freight to those at a distance who order prior to 1st March; also liberal discount for advance payment.

To secure a Machine, order immediately. Though so little known the past season, and none ready for delivery till 1st May, yet not two-thirds the customers could be supplied. The reputation of the machine is now widely established, so that THREE THOUSAND will not as nearly supply the demand as twelve hundred did last year, and we shall also be selling four months earlier.

☞ Order early, if you would not be disappointed.

Pamphlets giving IMPARTIALLY the opinions of Farmers, together with orders, notes, &c., mailed to applicants, and prepaid.

☞ Write to us at Chicago, Ill.; Dayton, Ohio, or Baltimore, Md., whichever is nearest to you.

J. S. WRIGHT & CO.
"Prairie Farmer" Works, Chicago, Feb. 20, 1856, 110-11n27

R. L. ALLEN, Esq.—DEAR SIR:—Your Mower (Allen's patent) was first tried on my place at West Farms, and worked greatly to our satisfaction. It was then sent to our farm at East Chester, and cut the entire crop—some 80 acres—without repair or breakage. It does the best work in the best manner, is of comparative easy draught, and cannot be clogged, however wet or soft the grass may be. I have recommended your Machine to my friends, feeling that I do them a service thereby. Sincerely yours,
EDWARD G. FAILE.
Woodside, Westchester, N. Y., Oct. 17, 1855. 111—112

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers.

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

HARROWS; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, &c.

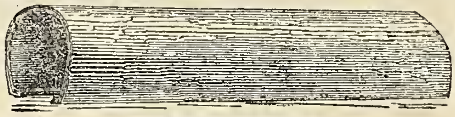
ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,
For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

ALBANY TILE WORRS,

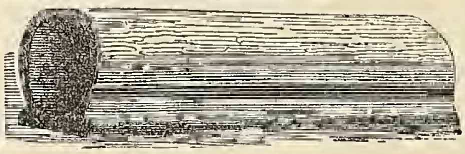
Corner of Patroon and Knox-sts., Albany, N. Y.

THE SUBSCRIBERS, being the most extensive manufacturers of DRAINING TILE in the United States, have on hand, in large or small quantities, for Land Draining, the following descriptions, warranted superior to any made in this country, hard burned, and over one foot in length. On orders for 10,000 or more, a small discount will be made.



HORSE SHOE TILE.

4½ inch calibre, $18 per 1,000; 3½ inch calibre, $15 per 1,000; 2½ inch calibre, $12 per 1,000.



SOLE TILE, OR PIPE.

3 inch calibre....................	$18 per 1,000
2 inch calibre....................	12 per 1,000

Also on hand 8 inch Horse Shoe Tile for large drains, $8 per 100—5½ inch, $40 per 1,000. Sole Tile, 4 inch calibre, for sink drains, $40 per 1,000—6 inch caliber Octagon Pipe, $20 per 100—Cornice Brick, of the pattern used in the City of Washington, also on hand.

Orders respectfully solicited. Cartage free.

C. & W. M'CAMMON,
late BABCOCK & VAN VECHTEN,
Feb. 21—110—11n38 Albany, N. Y.

GRAIN MILLS, STEEL and CAST IRON Mills, at $6 to $25, and Burr-Stone at $50 to $250, for Horse or Steam Power.

GRENOBLE HOSE—A superior Hose, manufactured of the finest Hemp—a cheap and excellent substitute for Leather and Gutta Percha. It is especially recommended to Planters, Nurserymen, Fire Companies, Steamboats, Manufactories, Dwellings, &c. It costs less than half the price of leather, is lighter, stands as much pressure, is as durable, and is not subjected for its preservation to the expense of oiling or greasing, neither is it injured by frost.

For sale and orders for importation received in sizes from 1 to 7 inches in diameter, by CHARLES LENZMANN, 54 Cedar-st., New-York, where certificates of its superior qualities can be examined, from Alfred Carson, Esq., Chief Engineer of the New-York Fire Department; from James McFarlan, Esq., Chief Engineer of the Union Ferry Company, and also from official authorities of some of the large cities of Europe. 110-11n24

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

A WORD TO FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN.—If you have butter, poultry, eggs, or any other articles of table use, which you will sell low for cash, please apply to the principal Express Agent in your neighborhood. Likely, we will put him in funds to buy of you if we can agree upon prices.

We are in want of half a tun of nice turkeys, chickens and geese, every week, at our Express Produce Store, No. 33 Broadway. A tun or two of first rate table butter, upon consignment, to sell to consumers would be very acceptable.

Commission for effecting sales, for cash, five per cent, and NO OTHER CHARGES WHATEVER.

A. L. STIMSON,
Agent for the Sale of Farmers' Produce, and the purchase of Goods ordered by Express, No. 33 Broadway, New-York.

REFERENCES—The American Express Company; Wells, Butterfield & Co.; the Adams Express Company; the National Express Company; Thompson & Co.'s Express; and Cheney, Fiske & Co.'s. 110tfn32

VALUABLE AND CHEAP PROPERTY FOR SALE IN MORRISTOWN, N. J.

The subscriber offers his property for sale. The improvements are one new two-story House, with tin roof, containing seven rooms, beside garret and cellar the full size of the house.

There are nearly four acres of good clay ground, with a never-failing stream of water running through; located on the Washington Turnpike within three minutes walk of the Railroad depot. The garden is well stocked with Fruit Trees of the choicest varieties, particularly Pears. There is also a very valuable orchard of bearing Orange-Quince trees—nearly 100.

A rare opportunity for a cash purchaser. Title indisputable.
110tfn21 WM. DAY.

WHITAKER'S
Vermin Exterminator,
IS ONE OF THE MOST
Novel and Useful Inventions of the age.

AFTER years of experiment Professor Whitaker has succeeded in discovering certain materials which, when vaporized, are destructive to all kinds of vermin, and has also invented a machine for manufacturing and applying these vapors. The most prominent Agriculturists and Chemists have pronounced it the best aid to the Agriculturist that has been invented. We would call attention to the recommendations attached in proof of its utility.

We claim that it will destroy vermin upon trees, cattle, horses, sheep, &c., bed-bugs, roaches, lice, &c., &c. It will repay the cost many times over in its use in a single orchard, or in the improvement of stock upon almost any farm.

☞ For circulars containing full information address EDWARD E. PALMER & CO., Agents, Troy, N. Y.

I was present at a trial of Whitaker's Vermin Exterminator, upon a lousy yearling colt belonging to Mr. John Morris, Jr. Scarcely ever have I seen an animal so completely covered with lice, yet after the use of the vapor as applied by the machine for only a few moments, not a single live one was to be found. I cannot hesitate to recommend the invention to stock-raisers as one which though novel is certainly one from which they may reap ten-fold its cost in a single season. A. VANTUYL,
Treasurer of the Rens. Co. Agricultural Society.

I have seen in several instances the effect of vapors on various insects, such as lice on cattle and worms on trees, as applied by Whitaker's Vermin Exterminator, and the result has been uniformly complete, and no traces of them ever seen after one or two applications. I take pleasure in saying I think the instrument one of great importance, especially to those engaged in agricultural pursuits.
E. WATERS, Chemist, Troy.

ALBANY, Feb. 6, 1856.
The Patent Vermin Exterminator was used in my house which is situated in the center of a brick row. Previous to its use hundreds of roaches were nightly to be found in and about my kitchen premises, of course a source of great annoyance. After the first use of the machine but a few were to be found the following morning and night; it was used once or twice afterwards, since which they have not troubled my premises.
Yours truly, Mrs. A. DEMPSEY.

MR. WHITAKER:—In answer to your inquiry as to the efficacy of your Vermin Exterminator, I would say that I used it upon a portion of my orchard last spring, and it exterminated every worm upon those trees upon which it was used, they bearing an excellent yield of fruit. while trees that it was not used upon suffered much from the worms, bearing but little fruit. The machines I consider invaluable for fruit-growers, knowing from experience that the cost is nothing when compared with the saving of fruit. ANTHONY SEILER, Brunswick.

PROFESSOR WHITAKER:—Dear Sir, I was present at a trial of your exterminator upon one of the most lousy horses I ever saw, and can testify to its complete success. Your machine must be of great importance to stock raisers.
Yours &c., B. STARBUCK, Troy, N. Y.

A RARE CHANCE FOR YOUNG MEN.

The rights for the sale of Whitaker's Exterminator for States and counties will be sold for a small sum. To young men of enterprise this offers a rare chance, for by the investment of a few dollars a profitable return is sure. A most liberal discount will be made to those owning rights. This invention is one which has only to be shown to every farmer, stock-raiser and housekeeper to insure its sale.

For full information, address, EDWARD E. PALMER & CO., Agents, Troy, N. Y. —11ln49

THE LITTLE GIANT CORN and COB CRUSHER, to work with one or more horses, the best machine in use for this purpose. For sale, of various sizes and prices, by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

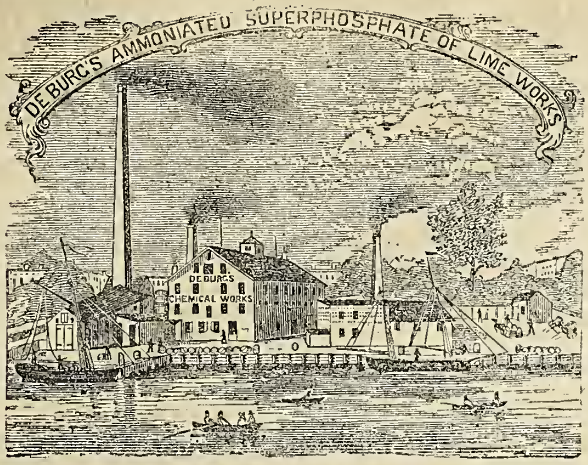
THE NIMBLE GIANT,

Being one of the latest improved iron GRAIN MILLS for grinding corn, oats, &c.

This machine works with great rapidity with two horses, or when driven by water or steam. It is simple, not liable to get out of order, and durable. Price, $55, with two sieves attached for separating the bran and coarse meal; and with cast steel cob-breaking attachment, for making cob meal, $65. Warranted to give perfect satisfaction, or the purchase money returned.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st., N. Y.

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful sciences. Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No. 119 Washington-st., Boston. Sample copies sent when ordered.


DE BURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DEBURGS CHEMICAL WORKS

DEBURG'S

AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my prsposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to statethat many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feb. 1st(orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market, for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City, for one dollar per tun.

CASH PRICE, $45 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

C. B. DEBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I.
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.
109—116n

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

BEST No. 1 Peruvian GUANO.

BONE DUST, ground and sawings.
Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For sale by
R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

SHORT HORN BULL FOR SALE.

SACHEM, (935) American Herd Book, vol. 2d, got by imported Wolviston, (1109) a Princess Tribe Bull, bred by Mr. Stephenson, of Durham, England. Sachem is three years old, past, and a very fine animal in all respects, and has proved himself a first-rate stock getter. A yearling bull and a few cows also for sale.
J. F. SHEAFE,
111—112n40 New Hamburg, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,
C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

LARGE LOP-EARED RABBITS.—The above Rabbits for sale, in pairs or single. They are beautifully marked of various colors, and are pure and well bred.

Address, S. W. RODMAN, Boston, Mass.,
1247n108—9 Or the Editor of this Paper.

CHOICE POULTRY.—SEED POTATOES.—The subscriber has for sale ASIATIC, SEABRIGHT BANTAMS and GAME FOWLS, at very reasonable rates—all warranted PURE.

I can also furnish the superior CLINTON POTATOES at $1 per peck. All orders promptly attended to.
WM. FULMER,
109—112n6 Stewartsville, N. J.

RUSSIAN FOWLS.—A few pairs of very choice Fowls of this breed may be obtained by applying to the subscriber immediately.
H. L. HYDE,
1850n108—11N12 Mystic, Ct.

TO FARMERS AND GARDENERS.—Your attention is called to the Manures manufactured by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY from the contents of the sinks and privies of New-York city, and free from offensive odor, called

POUDRETTE AND TAFEU.

Poudrette is composed of two-thirds night soil and one-third decomposed vegetable fiber. Tafeu is composed of three-fourths night soil and one-fourth No. 1 Peruvian Guano.

These manures are cheaper and better adapted for raising Corn, Garden Vegetables and Grass, than any other in market. Can be put in contact with the seed without injury, and causes Corn and seeds to come up sooner, ripen two weeks earlier, and yield one-third more than other manures, and is a SURE PREVENTIVE of the Cut Worm.

Two bbls. Poudrette or 100 lbs. Tafeu, will manure an acre of Corn in the hill. Tafeu 1¾ cents per pound. Poudrette $2 per barrel, or $1 50 for any quantity over seven barrels, delivered on board vessel or railroad free from any charge for package or cartage. A pamphlet, containing every information, sent, post-paid, to any one sending their address to
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
109—113n17 No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept 4, 1855.*

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation, (the plants which abound in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address,
WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

N. B.—Plants will be furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs. 111—tfn42

THE SCHOOL BELL,

A LARGE QUARTO WEEKLY PAPER, designed for the amusement and instruction of youth, containing choice stories, poetry, games, puzzles, familiar science, and the news of the day, adapted to the wants and wishes of scholars in our public and private schools. Edited and published

BY STEPHEN ANGELL, Morrisania, N. Y.

TERMS.—Single copy, by mail, a year, 75 cents; five copies, $3; ten copies, $5, and at same rate for larger numbers.

We will send ten copies for ten weeks, to one address, for one dollar, and at the end of that time the subscription can be renewed.

Twenty copies, postage paid to any part of the United States, $12, and at the same rate for that number for a shorter period—thus, for $1, we send 20 copies free of postage for one month

Postage on the School Bell, throughout Westchester Co., free; within the State, 3 1-4 cents a quarter, paid in advance; and to any part of the United States, 6 1-2 cents.

WYANDOT PROLIFIC CORN FOR SALE.—The greatest agricultural wonder of the age.—Plant only one kernel, in hills four feet apart, at the north, and five to six at the south—yield 150 bushels per acre.

For circulars giving full particulars, address
J. C. THOMPSON,
108—11n1344N13 Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y.

FISH GUANO.—The NARRAGANSETT MANUFACTUING COMPANY, of Providence, R. I., are now prepared to execute orders for their FISH GUANO. They have prepared their Guano after two methods. One by chemically treating, cooking and then drying and grinding the fish to a powder. This is put in bags and sold at $45 per tun. The other variety is prepared as above (with the exception of drying and grinding), and is then combined with an absorbant which is in itself a valuable fertilizer, and sold at two dollars per bbl. containing about 200 lbs. The compost is of great strength, and must be a very efficient fertilizer, as it is composed in great part of simple flesh and bones of fish.

Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, has made an analysis of the Powder, and says:

"It is similar to the Peruvian Guano in composition, with the exception that the ammonial matter is dried flesh, of fish, and not yet putrefied, so as to be ammoniacal. It will, however, produce ammonia by decomposition in the soil. One hundred grains of this manure, dried and finely pulverized, was submitted to analysis, with the following result:

ANALYSIS.

Ammonial matter (flesh or fish)	48.00
Phosphate of Lime	33 90
Carbonate of Lime	7.60
Sulphate of Lime	6.40
Potash of Soda	4.10
	100.00

Respectfully your obedient servant,
CHARLES T. JACKSON,
Assaser to the State of Massachusetts."

Dr. Jackson's opinion of our Guano is expressed in the following note:

Boston, March 9, 1855.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Esq.—Dear sir: In reply to your letter, I would state my entire confidence in the superiority of a properly prepared artificial guano, made from fishes, over that of the natural guano of birds, obtained from the coast of Peru.

It is obvious that more of the nitro-geneous, or ammonia-producing substances, exist in fish prepared after your method, than are found in any guano, and hence the artificial preparation will go further in the fertilization of a soil.

The ammoniacal salts act chiefly in bringing the foliage into a healthy and luxuriant condition, and thus causes the plant to absorb more of the phosphate and other necessary salts and substances from the soil, and more carbonic acid from the air. The carbonate of ammonia, also, is a solvent for humus, and it quickly saturates any injurious acid salts that may exist in the soil, and forms from some of them valuable fertilizers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. T. JACKSON, M. D., Statate Assayer, &c.

This manure is offered to agriculturists with the assurance of its becoming one of the most popular to be obtained. The Company are ready to establish agencies at such places as are desirable for the convenience of farmers. As the supply for the season is rather limited, the Company would esteem it a favor to have orders forwarded early to enable them to lay down at their agencies the requisite quantities in proper time for use. Orders may be addressed to to the Company at Providence, or to R. L. Allen, New-York; R. H. Pease, Albany; Geo. Buck, Hartford.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Agent,
No. 22 West Water-st., Providence, R. I.
Providence, Jan. 15, 1856. 109—114n16

BONE

Superphosphate of Lime.

L. S. HOYT'S SUPERPHOSPHATE of LIME, as a TOP-DRESSING, applied early in the Spring, upon Grain and Grass lands, will increase the yield so much as to insure its free use in this way, as well as its general application in the usual way to all the various crops where a SAFE, ACTIVE and LASTING Fertilizer is required.

A Pamphlet descriptive of my SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, containing analyses, certificates, &c., may be had gratis, on application to
L. S. HOYT,
194 Water-st., New-York.

MAPES' SUPER-PHOSHATE of LIME, The best fertilizer known.

Mapes' Nitrogenized Super-phosphate of Lime,				2½ cts.	per lb.	
Do.	Improved	do.	do.	do.	2½ do.	do.
Do.	No. 1	do.	do.	do.	2¼ do.	do.

In sacks of 160 lbs. each.
FRED. McCREADY,
110—11n26 143 Fulton-st., N. Y.

1000 TUNS OF DEBURG'S NO. 1 SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

We take pleasure in informing the Agricultural community that we are Sole Agents in the State of Pennsylvania for DEBURG'S Original and Genuine SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, warranted of superiority, the cheapest manure in the world. Farmers and Dealers supplied at low prices.

EXTRA QUALITY LAND PLASTER.

5,000 barrels Extra Quality Land Plaster, selected for its fertilizing qualities.
10,000 bushels of same in bulk.
10,000 barrels best quality Ordinary Land Plaster, equal to the best usually sold, at the low price of 20 cts. per bushel, or $1 10 cents per barrel, with a deduction for large lots.
25,000 bushels of same in bulk.
1,000 barrels Calcined Plaster.
1,000 barrels Casting Plaster.
500 barrels Dentist Plaster.
5,000 barrels Hydraulic Cement.
1,000 barrels True Roman Cement.

PERUVIAN GUANO, POUDRETTE, MEXICAN GUANO, GROUND CHARCOAL, &c.

FRENCH, RICHARDS & CO.
At the Steam Plaster Mills, junction of York-avenue and Callowhill-st., Philadelphia, Pa. 110—12n31

MAPES'

NITROGENIZED SUPER-PHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THIS NEW FERTILIZER will now be furnished at the same price as the Improved Super-phosphate of Lime, with increased quantities of nitrogenous matters, being much stronger than Peruvian Guano, and for cold or very poor soils, is the best manure known. For IMPROVED RESULTS, it surpasses all others, and in LASTING POWER exceeds Guano. For sale in bags of 160 lbs. each, at 2½ cts. per pound.
110—11n25 FRED'K McCREADY, 143 Fulton-st., N. Y.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON YOUR NEIGHBORS.

Take care of them. Don't let them stir without watching. They may do something wrong if you do. To be sure, you never knew them to do anything very bad, but it may be on your account that they have not. Perhaps, if it had not been for your kind care they might have disgraced themselves and families a long time ago. Therefore, don't relax any effort to keep them where they ought to be; never mind your own business, that will take care of itself. There is a man passing along—there, he is looking over the fence into his neighbor's garden—be suspicious of him, perhaps he contemplates stealing something some of these dark nights: there is no knowing what queer fancies he may have got into his head. If you see any symptoms of any one passing out of the path of rectitude, don't say anything to the erring individual about it, but tell every one else that you can see, and be particular to see a great many. It is a good way to circulate such things, and, though it may not benefit yourself, or any one else in particular, it will be something equally important about some one else. Do keep something going—silence is a dreadful thing. If, after all your watchful care, you can't see anything out of the way in any one, you may be sure it is not because they have done anything bad; perhaps, in an unguarded moment, you lost sight of them—throw out hints that they are no better than they should be—that you should not wonder if people found out what they were after a while, and that they may not carry their heads so high. Keep it a going, and some one will take the hint, and begin to help you after a while—then there will be music, and everything will work to a charm.

Syllogistic Reasoning.—Epimenides says: The Cretans are always liars; now he was himself a Cretan; therefore he lied; therefore the Cretans are not liars; therefore Epimenides has not lied; therefore the Cretans are liars.

A Michigan paper says: "The snow in this vicinity is two *feet* deep," whereupon the Somerset Whig remarks: "That's nothing; it is two *knees* deep about here!" Well, that's nothing; we've seen a man measuring it his two *hips* deep, about here, and he did'nt near touch bottom.—Ed.

A word of kindness is to the grieving heart what a drop of dew is to the drooping leaf, renewing its life and recalling its fleeting hopes.

Matrimony should be a stereoscope, in which two hearts, though they may slightly differ, appear to the observer as one.

☞Club Prices.—Occasionally persons who have at some former period obtained their paper at a club rate, are in the habit of sending their *single* subscriptions at the former price. Thus, one who sent $5 for the three names last year, now sends his own single subscription for the two papers, at $1 67, saying, "This is the price I paid last year. One of the old club is dead, and the other has moved away." Clubs must contain the full number specified in our terms, and all commence at the same time. They may be at different Post-Offices.

When less than the regular price is sent, we shall hereafter give credit for only a proportional time.

INDEX.

April work for females—original....146
Apples for general cultivation—editorial....152
Asparagus bed, how to grow....161
Barley cultivation....155
Bees—Errors of Am. Ins. Trans.—original....154
Buck's County, Pa., corn, wheat and oats in—original.153
Burdock and violet....151
Climate, differences in....150
Coffee, cost and culture....158
Dogs and other pets in New-York....151
Dyelytra Spectabalis, a new plant—editorial....162
Evergreen, plant an—editorial....147
Evergreen Shrubbery—editorial....147
Flowers in winter—original....162
Fruit Trees, hints on setting—original....157
Garden, laying out....160
Grasses, questions about—original....153
Heaves, corn stalks for—original....155
Hog trade for 1855....164
Horses, stabling and feeding....155
Indian's letter—original....151
Lambs on trees, fevers, &c.—original....149
Lice on plants....160
Licorice, will it grow in New-England?—original....149
Mowing machines versus scythes....148
Neighbors, keep an eye on....168
Onions, R. I. statement....150
Orchards, sowing grain in—editorial....156
Ox, how to make the most of—original....154
Pear trees, pruning for standards—original....158
Peat, marsh mud—original....149
Plums, American in England....158
Poultry, plucking feathers—original....153
Pruning fruit trees—original....156
Quails, spare the—editorial....149
Rhubarb, those pies—editorial....152
Sheep, hogs—a boy's letter—editorial....150
Shrubbery, evergreen and deciduous—editorial....162
Shade trees, which to select—editorial....148
Sisters upon the farm—original....163
Snow, benefits of—original....153
Starch....151
Strawberries—original....159
Stump-puller, a novel—original....153
Sweeny, is it a disease?....155
Tree convention—editorial....166
Trees, ornamental—editorial....148
Trenching, what is?—editorial....161
Weather, prices, review—editorial....164
Wheat, sowing Spring—editorial....152
Wheat fields, look up the bare spots....152
Whitewash for barns....145
Work for the month—editorial....145
Yankee....151

☞Back Numbers and Back Volumes.—We have no more of these to spare, previous to Vol. XII—our entire extra edition up to that time having been exhausted.

Of Vols. XII, XIII and XIV, we have several sets, which will be furnished so long as they last, at $1, unbound, or $1 50, neatly bound in muslin.

Of the present Volume, previous to March, we have only complete sets from No. 1, (October,) with a few extra copies of October, November and December, but none of January and February—the unexpected number of new subscribers beginning with the year having exhausted all the copies of those two months, except such as are kept in full sets.

New subscribers, or those renewing, can begin with the Volume in October, or with March or April.

☞ How to get the Agriculturist.—A great number of persons are deterred from subscribing for a paper they really need or desire, simply because of the trouble of sending for it. If you wish the Agriculturist, take a piece of paper, large or small, and write simply your name, Post-office, County, and State, (as plain as you can,) fold the money in it, inclose the whole in an envelop—see that it is well fastened with gum, wafers or paste—and mail it to the Editor, as directed on the first page.

Here is a model letter—we print all it contained:

> "Hartford, Conn., Feb. 12, 1856.
>
> "Send American Agriculturist one year, beginning with the February number, 1856, to George W. Jackson, James Furman, and Oscar Mumford, at Hartford, Hartford Co., Conn. Inclosed are three dollars. O. M."

By simply changing the Post-office, names, &c., this letter will answer for every subscription—though we are always glad to have every one inclose in the same envelop sketches of methods of cultivation, experiments, condition of crops, &c., in their own neighborhoods.

American Agriculturist.

FIFTEENTH VOLUME

A Leading and Standard Agricultural Journal, devoted to the development and improvement of every department of Soil Culture, and adapted equally to the circumstances and wants of those who cultivate SMALL PLOTS of ground or LARGE FARMS.

It is designed to collect and communicate PLAIN, PRACTICAL and RELIABLE information upon the

Selection of Seeds; the BEST method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various Field and Garden Crops; Fruit Growing; Care, Treatment and Improvement of all kinds of Domestic Animals; the Construction and Embellishment of Farm Buildings; Housing, Preserving, and Marketing the Products of the Farm, Orchard, Garden and Dairy; and to the Domestic or Household labors of the Rural Home.

The proprietor of the Agriculturist—having been trained from childhood to the active labors of a large farm embracing a varied culture, and having devoted a dozen years to studying the principles lying at the foundation of improved soil culture in schools, in the field, in the laboratory, and in traveling for observation—trusts that he will be able to set before the readers of this journal such a collection of sound and practical information as will be to each a continual source of valuable knowledge.

Having no connection, directly or indirectly, with any other business whatever, and owning and controling the columns of this paper, the Editor claims to be entirely independent of all influences which, under other circumstances, might be supposed to modify or govern his opinions or teachings.

Those gentlemen whose labors have contributed so much in years past to the value of the pages of the Agriculturist, still feel a lively interest in its continued and increased prosperity, and they promise their editorial assistance. ☞ The best editorial aid to be found in the country will be continually sought for.

The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month in which it is dated.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞In addition to the above rates:

Postage to Canada	12 cents.
Postage to Europe	24 cents.
Delivered in New-York city	12 cents.

The paper is considered paid for wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

Every Subscriber and every Postmaster is respectfully requested to act as agent for this paper.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 189 Water-st.,
New-York.

WEEKLY NEWS, MARKET REPORTS, &C.

By an arrangement with Messrs. Raymond, Wesley & Co., Proprietors of the New York Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly TIMES, the Editor of the Agriculturist is engaged to prepare the Agricultural Department of their papers, including the Reports of the New-York Cattle Markets, &c. The WEEKLY TIMES contains all the matter relating to these subjects, which embrace extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world.

Those desiring it will be furnished by the Proprietor of the Agriculturist with the two papers combined, as follows:

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 25
Ten copies of both papers one year	17 00

☞ Ask Agents for Receipts.—The Authorized Agents of the American Agriculturist are furnished with the regular printed Office receipts, which are signed with a pen at the bottom and upon the left margin, by the Proprietor. When these are presented, no one need have the least hesitancy in receiving them, as they are given out only to responsible persons.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

Printed by R. Cunnington, 189 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 8.]

NEW-YORK, MAY, 1856.

[NEW SERIES—No. 112.

☞ The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor at 191 Water-st. (near Fulton).

☞ All Business and other letters should be addressed to ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st.,
New-York City.

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

"I feel a newer life in every gale;
The winds that fan the flowers,
And with their welcome breathings fill the sail,
Tell of serener hours,—
Of hours that glide unfelt away
Beneath the sky of May.

The spirit of the gentle South-wind calls
From his blue throne of air,
And where his whispering voice in music falls,
Beauty is budding there,
The bright ones of the valley break
Their slumbers, and awake."

This is no dream of poetry. Percival saw what he wrote of, heard the murmurings of the sweet south-wind, and inhaled the fragrance of the flowers with which it was laden. We have seen it too, and felt new life within us, as we have witnessed the renewal of vegetation upon the face of the earth. What a boon is existence amid a world so full of beauty as this when spring returns! The waving verdure rolls along the plain, and the forest weaves its gorgeous canopy of green to welcome back again its long absent warblers. They come from the sunny south. robin, black-bird, blue-bird, jay, thrush and bobolink, to hail the month of May. Listen now, as the morning sun streams through the bursting buds of the forest. What varied melodies all expressive of delight and yet leaving the listener with the feeling that the songster has not told half the joy that swelled his bursting heart. The hesitation of the lingering spring is gone, and the work of growth is fairly begun. The leaves are out and the new wood is rapidly forming. The flowers are forth and the fruit is setting. The sere leaves that carpet the forest are thrust with many a spike of flowers. Insects are beginning to fill the air with their murmurings. The domestic animals hail the return of spring with gladness. They are no more pinched with cold or hunger, but go forth to the green pastures to cater for themselves. They find that variety of food in the numerous grasses, and shrubs, which is too often denied them when man is the provider.

Now the farmer sees already the advantage of good keeping during the winter. The oxen have strength to labor, and the cows have an abundant flow of milk. The sheep do not lose their lambs, and give promise of splendid fleeces when the shearing comes. The spring pigs have done well, and all the surplus ones are sold to the butcher, or to the villagers, who only raise pork for family use. He is sorry for the penurious man, who stinted his cattle last winter. He will be able to fill all his orders for milk, butter and cheese, and the season with him will be prosperous.

PLOWING

is not yet completed. The spring grains are in, but the potatoes and corn are yet to be planted. Plow no more poor land than you can manure well. It does not pay the farmer for his labor to raise twenty bushels of corn to the acre. Three times that amount is within the reach of almost every farmer, if he will deal honestly with his land. Feed the land, and it will feed you. Turn up a little of the yellow soil every time you take up a new piece of green sward for planting.

POTATOES.

Plant a good breadth of these this season. They should be put in immediately. We do not participate in the fears of those who apprehend that this tuber is to run out, or to be supplanted by some new esculent, more prolific and more valuable. This crop did remarkably well last season, and it is owing to its general healthfulness, that this article of food is now so cheap throughout many, of the country markets, say from 25 to 45 cents a bushel, and they are not dear in our largest cities. The rot has led to more careful cultivation and we think in a few years this tuber will regain all the ground it has lost. Old varieties have been supplanted by new seedlings, and these, for the most part are little affected by the rot under judicious cultivation. Less green manures are used for this crop than formerly and with manifest advantage. This crop wants a large share of carbonaceous matter in the soil and brings forth its maximum produce only in fields rich in vegetable matter. The largest yields we have noticed at our fairs for several years past, have been upon reclaimed swamps and peat-bogs. Muck used upon gravel loams is an excellent manure for potatoes.

THE CORN CROP

can not very well be too large. Do not be in too great haste to plant. The seed requires a much higher temperature for germination than the potatoe, and if the sun have not sufficiently warmed the soil, it will rot and the work will need to be done over again. Too early planting often does the injury, for which worms have the credit. We are confident, that nothing is gained by planting this crop before the second or third week in May north of this city. We have often seen as good crops as could be desired from planting the first of June. Corn is a gross feeder and will use on poorer soils 20 to 25 cords of stable manure to the acre. If short of this staple fertilizer, use four bags of No. 1 Peruvian Guano, or the same quantity of Superphosphate of lime, if you can get a reliable article. In using these concentrated fertilizers, be careful to keep the seed from contact with them. It is often destroyed or very much injured by their caustic qualities.

STEEPING SEED CORN.

The black birds, crows, and cut worms, all have a partiality for this crop, and lay a heavy tax upon the farmer's industry. Many afield is ruined by these pests, even after the green blades have made their appearance. The methods to forestall their labors are various. Steeping corn in salt-petre or copperas water will make it disagreeable to the birds, and possibly may prove some safeguard against the worms. Soaking the corn in water, and then rolling it in tar and plaster will also act as a preventive. But care must be taken in applying the tar, or the kernel will be so closely incased as never to germinate. In our own experience we have found insects, worms, &c., to multiply very much faster in old neglected fields than in soil well manured. We have been little troubled with worms after the first year of cultivation. Whether there is any thing in the gases that escape from the manure calculated to destroy the larvæ of insects, we are unable to say. Possibly the manure pushes the plant along so vigorously that it is able to resist attacks, that would otherwise prove fatal.

GREEN CORN FOR SUMMER FODDER.

We think no farmer who has tried this safeguard against summer drouth, will ever relinquish this crop. We were rejoiced to see, last summer in our journeyings, abundant evidence that more attention is paid to this crop. It comes just in the season, when the pastures are liable to fail, and helps out the fall feed in a most satisfactory manner. If there is a surplus it makes excellent fodder for winter. The best way to cultivate it, is in drills thirty inches apart. This gives an opportunity for cultivation during the early growth of the corn, and the yield is larger. Sweet corn is by many esteemed better than the common field corn for this purpose, especially Stowells Evergreen.

GREEN CORN FOR HOGS.

We have used this crop for feeding swine during August and September, for several years. They devour every particle of stalk and leaf with as much relish as neat stock, and with as much benefit. It makes cheap pork, and of excellent quality. Plant half an acre of Sweet corn, and feed it out in those months to your fattening swine, and we venture to say, you will not need our exhortation to repeat the experiment.

GRAFTING

is yet in season, the first of this month. It is a very simple process. If an old tree is to be furnished with a new top, not more than one third of it should be grafted the first year, and this should be the top branches. The scions take much more readily upon new, than upon old wood, and for this reason, some cut off the old branches and force them to make new shoots for the purpose of grafting next year. We have found this the best method. But grafting alone will not renew old trees. They should be dug around, and manured. Save all the old bones and dig them in, about the roots of your fruit trees. Dry bones so treated, be assured, will rise again, not indeed in the shape of bones. but recoined and beautified in the shape of delicious fruits. Scrub the old trunks with soap and water, and then stand by and see how they will grow and repay your care. If any of your young trees do not thrive, even with good treatment, better take them up and try again. Sometimes they are so infested with lice, that a new tree is the only remedy. If the tree has sound roots, and it is only stunted by long neglect, good care and grafting may bring it into a thriving condition. If you have seedling pears scattered about your woods and pastures set them out in nursery rows and graft them. These stocks are sound, and make very vigorous trees. In a few years they may be loaded with fine Bartlets and Seckles.

THE SMALL FRUITS.

It is not yet too late to plant Raspberries, Blackberries and Currants. Nothing pays better than these berries. Make the soil deep and rich.

A SUCCESSION OF PEAS

is very desirable. Plant the Champion of England to succeed the Early June's or Prince Albert planted in April.

HAVE A GOOD GARDEN.

Variety is the spice of life. The farmer's table should have this spice. It is his business to supply food to the race, and he should give to his household daily, a fair sample of his skill in his business, upon the same principle that the shoemaker wears a genteel boot, or the tailor a fashionable coat. The farmer's table should be his best advertisement. It is good policy and good economy. Beef, pork and potatoes will not bring out of laborers the maximum of work. The human system craves a variety of food, and enough of it. Therefore plant and sow this month lettuce, parsley, onions, parsnips, radishes, tomatoes, peppers, cauliflower, cabbage, cucumbers, squashes, &c. Let it be no fault of yours, if you do not have the best garden in your neighborhood.

THE ORNAMENTAL.

If your garden is not yet laid out according to some plan, it is time to do it. It need not be completed at once. You can approach each year nearer to your plan until it is completed. Let every tree planted, every path made, every wall laid, have reference to the shape you mean it shall take when the garden is finished.—Ed.

MAY WORK FOR FEMALES.

BY ANNA HOPE.

Spring brings with it multiplied cares and duties, not only to the farmer, but to the housekeeper. The smoke and dust of winter must disappear before whitewash brushes and scrubbing brushes, and the aspect of the dwelling be rejuvenated by its mistress, as Nature without is by Him who has promised that seed-time and harvest, summer and winter, shall not cease. There are various methods of attending to this department of housekeeping.

Some ladies emulate the hurricane or the fierce thunder-storm. Everything in the house is whirled suddenly out of place, and furniture and carpets, looking-glasses and pictures are found, if found at all, in chaotic confusion. Every window in the house is open, and the baby and the other children enjoy all the advantages to be derived from strong drafts of air and unaccustomed exposure. Mattresses and featherbeds lie on the wood-pile, and blankets and comforters swing on the lines. There is not a quiet spot to be found. Mops and brushes are the enjoyments of the day; and tiny children, with tiny rags, are running here and there, to have their part in the pleasurable excitement. Woe to the gentlemen of the establishment, if he chance to make his appearance. He is not, at present, lord and master, but is subject to being driven about from one place to another, till, like Noah's dove, he finds there is no rest for the sole of his foot; but, unlike Noah's dove, he can find no ark to which he may return, and be lovingly taken in.

Night comes. The bed-chambers are perfumed with soap-suds, and smell delightfully fresh and clean. To be sure—there are no carpets on the floor, and no curtains at the windows, and there is not much of the semblance of home; but hope in the heart is strong, and it promises better things. What is that peculiar cough that disturbs the weary sleepers? It cannot be mistaken; baby has the croup, and demands speedy and efficient attention. Baby is not the only sufferer. Every other child has taken cold, and so have the adult members—for days they must suffer from their needless exposure. In wearisomeness the work so energetically begun is completed, and order is gradually restored to the household. Disasters so serious as croup do not always follow these earthquake cleanings, but I never knew one to take place, that did not result in colds and serious discomforts of some kind.

There is a "more excellent way" in house-cleaning—and that is a more quiet one. Begin in the attic, if convenient, and put that in order for summer. Then take unoccupied chambers, or those unwarmed by a fire, disarranging only one or two in a day Finish these before attempting others. So continue to do, till the work is all done, and the cellar itself nicely whitewashed. Much unnecessary confusion is thus avoided, and the general arrangements of the family are not broken up. The comfort of home is not, even for a time, destroyed, and the gentlemen, absent during the day, at hard work in the fields or on pressing business, are not molested in their enjoyment of domestic life. They may not even know a revolution is going on in the house.

In making clean the interior house, do not forget the yard about it. Have that neatly raked, and the dead leaves and twigs removed to the barn-yard or the bonfire heap. Cultivate in your children a love for well-kept grounds, and for agricultural employment. Give them gardens *of their own*, and let them plant as they please, offering them, of course, the advice and instruction they need. Encourage them in their plans. Teach them to observe the various modes of growth in different plants. Sympathize with them in the pleasure which they feel when their seeds sprout and show themselves above the earth. Let your daughters enjoy the same privilege of cultivating a garden for themselves as do your boys. Do not teach them that they must plant nothing but flower seeds; but let them, if they wish, have corn and potatoes, beets and carrots. Advise your sons to pay some attention to flowers, for they need their refining influence, quite as much as do your more gentle girls.

Do not use the pruning-knife too freely on your shrubs and young trees. Nature is a wise mother, and when she sends out branches near the ground, she does it for a good purpose. Do not make bloomers of your trees any more readily than you would make a bloomer of yourself. I should, myself, never trim a tree, unless its situation rendered it necessary, and even then it would be done with reluctance. I doubt if even our fruit trees would not do better, to permit the branches to grow low, and thus protect the trunk from the fierce heats of summer.

If you have not a good strawberry bed, it is not even now too late to make one, if you live north of New-York. Have the ground properly prepared—the March number of the Agriculturist, if you have it, will tell you how to have it done—and then children can set the vines as well as older persons, and will enjoy the work.

Early Asparagus.—A correspondent at Stonington, Ct., writes, April 12: "We have had three cuttings of asparagus this week. Can you beat that?"

No sir. Perhaps some of our readers can. If so, let them speak out.—[Ed.

A lady made a complaint to Frederick the Great of Prussia. "Your Majesty," said she, "my husband treats me badly." "That is none of my business," replied the King. "But he speaks "very ill of you," said the lady. "That" he replied "is none of your business."

He who lives to learn will learn to live.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

MAY 1856.

[We propose to give from month to month, besides our leading article, "Work for the Month," a calendar of some of the more important operations in the field, garden, &c. These are adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 42°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north, earlier south. An early season, or a late one like the present advances or retards operations, so that we shall need to revise and adapt these tables to each year. The letters f. m. l. refer to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month. Doubling the letters thus: ff. mm. or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

THE FIELD.

Spring Wheat; sow Fife or other varieties, ff. (See page 177.)

Clover; sow f. m., on or with Spring grain.

Timothy; sow f. m., with clover or Spring grain.

Corn; plant and sow f. m. l. (See Work for Month.)

Broom Corn; plant f. to m. Look out for killing by frost.

Oats; sow, ff. m.; choose heavy kinds.

Barley; sow ff., if not done before.

Lucerne; sow ff. (See page 177.)

Peas; sow or plow in, f. m. Scald seed *quickly* to kill bugs.

Beans; plant f. mm.

Vetches; sow broadcast or in drills, f. m.

Millet; sow f. m. l. (See page 175.)

Buckwheat; sow m. ll.

Flax may be sown at North, ff., but is usually sown in April.

Hemp; sow f. m. l.

Mustard; sow or drill f. m. l.

Tobacco; transplant f. to m.

Pumpkins; plant f. m. l., with corn, especially on new or rich land.

Squashes; plant as a field crop, f. m.

Turnips; sow, or better drill, Russia or Swede varieties, m. l.

Beets, for Winter use, sow in drills, f. to l.; thin out and weed those sown last month.

Carrots; sow f. m. l., or as soon as the ground is dry and warm; sow f. for early; m. for field crop.

Parsnips; hoe and thin, f. m. l.; sow a few f. m. l.

Plow deep, *deep*, DEEP, DEEP.

Harrowing; f. m. l.; you cannot make the soil too fine.

Plaster; sow over clover and wheat fields, f. m.

Manures; ff. mm. ll.; leave not a particle to waste about the yards or buildings, or to evaporate from the fields; get it all *under* the ground as soon as may be; mingle with the soil as intimately as possible, leaving no lumps or masses in one spot; gather ashes, soot, blood, hair, wool, rags, bones, pond and swamp muck, decayed leaves—in short, all decaying vegetable or animal substances, and get them near the roots of some growing crop. These all used, try Peruvian guano, plaster, salt, &c.

Pasturing; m. l., don't let animals out too soon; let the grass get up well; only half pasture with dry feed, at first.

Sheep; keep the lambing ewes from exposure, f. Take good care of the lambs; sheep and lambs are and will be high. Don't wash or shear sheep too early, there is much risk and little gain. Wash and shear m. l.

Salt meadows; ditch when dry enough.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Artichokes; plant out, f. m.

Asparagus; clean beds, f. m. (See our April number, page 161.) Water beds, adding to water a little guano, or liquid manure.

Beans and Peas; sow or plant for a succession, f. m. l.

Beets; sow red, ff., and thin out those sown early, f. m. l.; sow white beets, f. to l.

Blackberry vines; set out, ff., if not done already. (See page 000.)

Broccoli; sow, f. to m.; if dry, cover the ground with mats; set out plants already up, f. to m.

Cabbage; sow seed for late, ff.; set out plants, f. m., and for late, l.

Carrots; sow, f. m. l.; thin out, m. l.

Cauliflower; sow for late, f. to m.

Celery; plant out, f. to l.

Coriander and Dill; sow, f. or m.

Cress, or Pepper Grass; sow at several periods, f. m. l.—during l. under shade of trees.

Cucumbers; plant, f. to m. (See page 183.)

Currant bushes; may be planted by slips or roots, ff, but should, where possible, be put out in April.

Endive; sow, l. Fennel; sow, f.

Hoeing; keep the hoe constantly at work, f. m. l.

Kale (Sea;) sow, m.; blanch early sown, f.

Lettuce; sow, or plant out, f. m. and l., for a succession.

Marigolds and Majorams; sow and plant, f. to m.

Melons, of various kinds; sow, f. to m.; plant out, from hot beds, m.

Mints—Pennyroyal, &c., &c., plant slips, f. to l.; sow, ff.

Mushroon beds; make, ff. to m.

Mustard; sow for salad, f. m. and l.

Nasturtiums; sow, ff. to m. (See page 184.)

Onions; weed and thin, f. to l.; sow seed thickly for small onions to plant next Spring, m. to l.; for pickling, sow white, m.

Parsley; sow f. m. l., for a succession.

Parsnips; hoe and thin, f. to l.; sow some f. to m.

Potatoes; plant, f. to m.

Pumpkins and Squashes; sow, f. to m., or later; plant out those in hotbeds, f. to m.

Radishes; f. to l., for a succession. (See page 185.)

Raspberry vines; may be set out, ff.—better if done before.

Rosemary and Rue; plant out, ff. mm. l.

Sage; sow, ff.; plant slips and cuttings, f. to l.

Salsify, or Oyster Plant. (See page 184.)

Spinach; thin, f. m.; sow, f. m. l. for Summer or early Autumn use.

Strawberries; plant for late, ff., if not done; clean beds. See our last two numbers.

Tomatoes; plant out, f. to m; sow, ff. if not already done, though it is better to buy a few plants already started.

Thyme; sow, f.; plant out, f. to l.

Turnips; sow, f. m. and l., for early and succession.

Water plants, l., when ground is dry, especially those newly planted out; save all the house slops, urine and dish-water, and put around the roots of plants.

Weeds; these should be watched carefully; "a stich in time will save nine." If they get the start of you, cut down and bury them under the soil as a manure. Green plants decay too quickly to be profitable as a mulch, or surface manure.

FLOWER GARDEN.

Anemones; take up roots and separate offsets as fast as leaves decay, f. to l.

Annuals of various kinds; remove from hot-beds to borders as soon as weather is settled.

Biennials; sow, f. to l.

Borders; dress frequently, f. to l.

Carnations; remove side-buds from flower-stems; shade from hot sun at midday; water in very dry weather.

Dahlias; transfer from pots or green-house to open ground, f. to m.

Evergreen trees and shrubs; plant from f. to m., the earlier now, the better.

Flowering plants; stake as needed, f. to l.

Grass-plots: mow, or shear and roll frequently, f. to l.

Grass; seeds may be sown, f. to m., or later.

Gravel walks; smooth and roll often; pull out stray grass-stalks and weed as they appear.

Hoeing; keep the hoe, rake, &c., constantly in motion; continually stirring the ground around plants is highly beneficial.

Hyacinths; take up and store, as leaves decay, m. l.

Mignionette; sow for succession, f. to l.

Perennials; sow f. to m.; propogate by slips and cuttings, m. to l.

Polyanthus; part, ff., if not already done; shade carefully from hot sun, f. m. l.

Roses; bud, ff. to m.; treat roots with guano water or liquid manure.

Stakes should be set by flowering plants as required, f. to l.

Tulips; remove seed-pods, m. l.; take up and store as fast as leaves decay, l.

Turfs; may be laid, f. to m., or even later; but the earlier the better, to avoid drying out.

HOT-HOUSE AND GREEN-HOUSE.

[A very competent gentleman had engaged to supply hints under these heads, but his copy failed to reach us in time for this number.]

ORCHARD.

Grafting may be done in the earlier part of May, especially this season.

Look out for the caterpillars; don't let them spread and scatter over the tree, but pinch them to death as fast as seen.

Stir the ground around all fruit trees, and keep grass down. If trees are in a pasture or meadow, hoe around the roots.

Ashes, charcoal, &c., should be put around trees. Lime is also beneficial, put on the surface or dug in. Old trees, on a poor soil, are benefitted by guano, or liquid manure.

Tables like the above, enlarged and made more perfect, will hereafter be prepared for each monthly issue.—Ed.

SOW CLOVER FOR MANURE—WHY—WHEN—HOW.

Why.—We suppose a majority of farmers are, by this time, aware of the advantages of turning under a good crop of clover, as a means of fertilizing the soil,—we are sorry that the seed is so scarce and high the present season as to curtail the usual practice in any degree. Still, even with the seed at 13 to 16 cents per pound, it will *pay* on the great mass of poorer soils, especially those devoted to wheat or rye culture. But there are many who contend that plowing in clover cannot improve the soil, because "it is simply putting back into the ground a crop grown from it;" while others, who are convinced from experience that the practice is a good one, are still at a loss to account for the results produced. Both of these classes may learn something from a consideration of the method in which plants grow.

If we take a box of earth, containing, say 600 pounds, and weigh it carefully, and then sow an ounce of clover seed in it, we can continue to remove successive crops until we have taken off more weight of clover than the entire weight of earth in the box at first: and this, too, without adding anything but the purest water. After we have removed this crop we shall find the box of earth to weigh more than 500 pounds, (its original weight,) at least, nearly as much more as the weight of the roots remaining in the contained soil. As we explained in an article published several months since, the clover grown has been derived from the air; and such is the case with all plants. Their principal food comes from the atmosphere, from which it has been extracted by the surface of the leaves.

But experience teaches that the growth of any plant is accelerated, especially in its early stages, by supplying the soil with a small percentage of organic manure—that is, animal or vegetable matter, A single handful of animal excrements or decaying straw mingled with a square foot of ground will often insure its fertility, and cause it to produce a large hill of corn, for example, when, without this addition, not one-half of the yield would have been obtained.

An application of these facts explains the benefit of plowing under clover. A soil may be so poor that clover itself will not grow When this is the case, a small amount of manure from the yard, or a few hundred pounds per acre of gypsum (plaster of Paris) will generally furnish the needed food or stimulus. When we can get the clover to grow, its great amount of leaf surface will radidly abstract the invisible elements floating in or combined with the air, and store them in the stalks, leaves, and roots. When these are plowed under and mingled with the earth it is directly equivalent to bringing from a foreign source an amount of manure equal to the clover crop itself. We repeat, the clover does not "come from the soil, but is derived from a foreign source, and is so much *added* to the needed organic material required to produce wheat, rye, or other crops more difficult to be grown than clover. We have brought a number of comparatively barren fields to a high state of fertility with no other application than a little plaster at first, and turning under a few successive crops of clover when in their fullest growth—at the time of flowering.

We have, in few instances, been obliged to use yard manures, and, in the absence of these, an application of guano, or finely ground *unburnt* bones, before we could get clover to grow well; but when clover would grow, we have found no difficulty in bringing a field to a high degree of fertility, if it was not so sandy and devoid of fine material as to furnish no suitable medium for the growth of the small rootlets of plants.

The large amount of nitrogenous elements in clover, as well as the large leaf surface, render this one of the best manuring plants; and, with the growing scarcity of good manures ,farmers should turn their attention more to this subject.

When.—Much diversity of practice prevails. Judging from our own experience, as well as observation, we think decidedly the best season is during the months of March or April, according to the latitute. But clover can be sown in May, especially this late season, even upon Winter crops, though it is rather late for this. Upon oats, &c., sow this month, of course, as it must be sown after these seeds are in the ground.

How.—Upon Spring crops, the better plan is to finish harrowing in the grain seeds, and then sow the clover seed, working it in with a light harrow, or with a bush. For Winter crops, wheat and rye, some sow upon snow—and this is not a bad plan, as it easy to see whether the seed falls evenly, and when the snow melts away it in part washes the earth upon the seed. But even this is objectionable, since some of the seeds will remain uncovered; and, in the event of a sudden thaw or rain, currents of water will be produced which will wash the seed into furrows or low spots.

Our most successful practice has been to wait until the snow has departed, and choose a morning, or mornings, when the ground is frozen an inch or so in depth, and when there is little air stirring, and then carefully sow the seed as evenly as possible. At this time the surface of the earth is filled with little crevices formed by the frost. Into these the seeds fall, and, when the ground thaws again, most of them are as thoroughly covered as if planted by hand.

Soaking the seed.—When the sowing is done late in the Spring it often happens that the surface of the ground is too dry to start them. In this case it is well to soak the seeds. A writer in the Rural New-Yorker, who has practiced soaking his seed for a period of twelve hours, in weak brine, and then rolling it in plaster of Paris before sowing, finds that by comparing the result with seed sown dry, in the usual way, in parts of the same field, great advantages are gained by the practice. He says, the next Spring you can see the difference in favor of the soaked seed as far as you could see the lot, and it continued to produce more and better clover until he plowed it up. He has followed the practice ever since, and has not missed a crop, though the two last seasons were dry.

In scattering the seed, it is placed, while in the bag, into some vessel large enough to give room to swell, and an hour or two before using it is taken out of the water to drain, when it is rolled in plaster. The soaking and plaster adds to the weight, and enables the farmer to sow it much more evenly especially if the weather is windy. As the present season is backward, and clover seed is scarce and dear, the plan of soaking the seed is worthy of trial. On most soils plaster is the best application that can be made, and when applied directly to the seed it receives an important stimulus just at the period when it is most needed.—Ed.

THE LATE SEASON—CORN PLANTING.

If this late spring should be followed by early autumn frost, as was the case in 1836, much of the corn crop of the United States will be seriously injured, unless it should ripen one to two weeks earlier than is common. To insure earlier ripening, it is quite desirable to select the seed from some locality two to four degrees north of the place where planted. The extra expense of this would be trifling—the extra gain might be very great.

The early varieties of corn from Canada and the most northern sections of the United States, will ripen in eighty-five to ninety days from planting. But these are of a dwarf growth of *stalk*, though some of them are as great yielders in *grain* as any other variety. Still, we would not recommend these for general field culture south of 42 degrees north latitude, but a taller, stronger growing variety, several of which ripen in ninety to one hundred days. In the summer of 1837, a neighbor of ours raised a very fine crop of corn—stalk and ear of full medium size—the grain of which glazed in eighty-five days after planting. The yield was fully thirty-seven bushels per acre. Indian corn is the largest and most important crop grown in America.

It behooves us, therefore, to give it special attention. Everything likely to increase the amount of yield per acre, to facilitate and cheapen cultivation and harvesting, to improve its quality and certainty of ripening before an early frost, should be subjects of careful study on the part of farmers. Their wealth as well as their comfort and happiness, may be greatly increased thereby.—[Ed.

Experiment with Potatoes.—Mr. J. G. Johnson, of Providence, writes us that he finds a tablespoonful of coarse salts dropped on a hill of potatoes, and dug in at the first hoeing is a valuable application on his soil, which is of a light, sandy character. Please give a full description of the experiments with the result. What kind of "salts" were used ?

Let others experiments with a few hills Try salts (epsom and glauber) on some common salt on others; ashes, plaster, lime &c., on others.—Ed.

THOSE TUMBLING STONE FENCES.

Stone fences, though a nuisance anywhere, are a necessary evil in many parts of the country, which cannot well be dispensed with. If Jack Frost would let them alone, in Winter, there would be little trouble, but that mischievous fellow delights in prying up one side, then the other, now loosening a stone here, and displacing another there, and then raising the whole *en masse*, and letting down one side at a time, when the sun shines in. An old Connecticut farmer, whose land, though upon a side-hill, was kept continually damp by water oozing out over more than half the surface, once told us, that the greatest sin he had to answer for, was an ill-temper, and that this had been chiefly developed by vain attempts to keep his stone fences perpendicular. He thought about one-tenth ef the year was consumed in repairing them. This, he said, was equal to seven dollars in every hundred of his farm expenses.

Most builders of stone fences endeavor to avoid the effect of frost by digging a deep foundation; but this is not entirely effectual, since the soil against the lower part of the walls, in freezing, frequently raises up the sides unequally. If the fences run east and west, the ground thaws out soonest on the sunny side, and then the whole wall is, ten to one, tilted in that direction, if not thrown down.

A Remedy.—It is well known that dry solids—dry earth, for example—slightly contract in cold weather and expand in warm, while water, and wet substances generally, expand when becoming solidified by cold. Water expands about one-eighth in freezing, and a wet soil does the same, so that when the ground freezes two feet in depth, it rises three inches—enough to upset any wall. If the same soil had been dry it would have simply contracted or settled, perhaps less than one-fourth of an inch. This principle suggests a remedy for the effects of frost:

Make a dry bed of earth for stone walls to rest upon.

This can be accomplished in two ways. First, by running an open drain directly under the fence sufficiently large and deep to carry off all water.

The surest method, and perhaps the one most generally practicable, is to bank up the earth from one-and-a-half to two feet in the place where the wall is to stand, and lay the foundation stones directly upon the summit of the ridge. The banking can be done with a plow. Mark out the line for the fence, and then run a plow upon each side, turning, say half-a-dozen furrows from either side, in upon or toward this line. Then begin again at the middle and replow the land in the same way. Five or six plowings of this kind will raise the middle portion sufficiently to give a high and dry bed, from which all water will flow or drain off. Smooth the surface with a harrow, and go over with a heavy roller afterward, if such an implement be at hand. Leave tke ground to settle for a time, and then put up the stone wall. The extra labor of preparing the bed thus will be a dozen times less than what would be required to repair the fences from year to year; and besides a much less quantity of stones will be needed than in the digging process.

We do not recommend this plan for a soil always dry, and where stones are plentiful and close at hand, for in this case it is probably better to dig below the frost at once, and lay the wall wide enough to prevent its falling over; but on wet ground, with no good supply of stones near, we think the plan we have recommended highly valuable.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY—NOW AND THEN.

If the farmer of fifty years since, could, like a second Rip Van Winkle, awake from his long sleep to a new life, he would be amazed at the machinery which is now employed in the culture of the soil, and the preparation of its products for market. A clumsy ax, a miserable kicking plow, with a wooden mould board, a wooden-toothed harrow, a coarse shovel, a heavy hoe, an imperfectly tempered scythe and sickle, a flail, and a hand grain-fan, were about all the implements which the best farmers then thought necessary for them to possess. But now he requires half a dozen to a dozen different kinds and sizes of the best cast-iron or steel-polished plows, according to the nature of his soil, and the depth and breadth of his furrows; rollers with independent iron sections, and clod crushers to pulverise and smooth the surface of his fields; swing harrows, accommodating their teeth to the uneven surfaces of the ground, and leaving large fields in as fine a tilth for the reception of the seed as a well-prepared garden; corn and potato planters, seed sowers and drills, dropping and covering the seed with the greatest rapidity and economy, and yet mathematically exact; cultivators and soil-stirrers, which open the ground to the inhalation of fortifying dews, and cut up and kill the weeds which, if suffered to grow, would impoverish the crop; root and corn harvesters, mowing and reaping machines, horse-rakes, and horse pitchforks; threshing machines, fan mills and corn shellers; mills and apparatus for grinding, cutting and cooking the food for stock; and lastly, canals and railroads for transporting everything which the farmer may have to sell, with undreamed-of safety and dispatch, to the highest priced markets; thus enabling the single farmer of the present day, to accomplish with ease what ten, and in some instances even twenty of his brethen of ancient date could not have done in the same time, with the most painful and exhausting efforts.

How thankful ought the generation of the present day to be to those artizans who have thus facilitated and lightened the toil of the husbandman, and enabled him to keep pace with a rapidly increasing population, and furnish food at nearly the average prices of a half century ago. We expect that these improvements on the part of mechanics will continue, and that the present is even but the beginning of what is yet to be accomplished.—[Ed.

HYDRAULIC CEMENT (WATER-LIME) FO WATER-PIPES—HOW TO MAKE THE PIPES.

Mr. J. Henderson, of Bowling-Green, Va., gives us his experience as well as observation of the use of hydraulic cement for pipes conveying water.

The method of making the pipes is quite simple and cheap, and we are quite obliged for the information. He states, that in his own town, as well as in Rockbridge, it has been extensively used for several years, and is very highly esteemed. He has seen several instances where water is conveyed from half a mile to a mile, with a heavy pressure.

Last spring, Mr. Henderson put down 600 feet of pipe, 1½ inches in diameter, for the purpose of conveying water from a spring to the barn-yard. He used for the purpose 10 barrels of cement, which cost $15, or $1 50 per barrel at the Rockbridge mill.

His method of constructing the pipe is as follows: The dry cement is thoroughly mixed with an equal quantity of sharp sand, and portions of it made into a mortar, only as fast as required for use. For a mould, two pieces of two-inch plank are taken, say four inches in width, and six feet in length. These are hollowed out on one side, so that when placed together, a hole would be left through the centre. They are then put down edgewise in the bottom of the ditch where the pipe is to remain, but are set apart three or four inches, so as to leave a suitable space for the mortar between them. They are kept apart by another small piece of plank, rounded upon its two edges to fit the hollows in the two side pieces. This forms a kind of open trough or mould, six feet long and four inches deep, having the ground for the bottom, the hollow plank for the sides, the last piece of pipe formed, for one end, and the small cross-piece for the other.

Through the centre of the cross-piece a hole is bored, of the size of the internal bore of the pipe. Through this hole a round, smooth wooden rod is thrust, which is continued along the middle of the mould, and into the hole in the last piece of pipe formed. When thus arranged, the mortar, just prepared, is poured in and soon becomes hard. As soon as the mortar is set, the rod is drawn out carefully, leaving a smooth round hole in the centre.

The side pieces are then taken off, and moved along for another six feet. These may be kept in place by the sides of the ditch, if it be of the proper width; but it is better to prepare a couple of iron clamps, say like a wide plow clevice, which can be set down over them to keep them from falling outward, and taken up when the side pieces are to be moved.

The whole process is very simple, and can be rapidly performed, and we should judge, quite cheaply. As soon as the whole pipe is finished the water may be let in, but the pipe should be allowed to harden some two weeks or so, before much pressure is added.

GLAZED STONE-WARE PIPE.

Messrs. E. & D. Fosdick & Co., of Middlebury, Summit Co., Ohio, advertise a stone pipe, glass-glazed on the inside, which is offered at a moderate price, add is well recommended. We have not seen it, and cannot speak definitely as to its merits.—[Ed.

For the American Agriculturist.

TO MY SISTERS UPON THE FARM.—No. 2.

BY ELIZA.

While the increasing prosperity of our people enables them to indulge in many of those necessaries of life, which undeveloped resources and a partially formed state of society have hitherto forbid, we should be careful that luxury and sloth do not usurp the place of that frugality and industry which has distinguished us as a nation and laid the foundation for that "future destiny" of the Anglo Saxon race, which looms up before our mental vision, while listening to fourth of July orations, or reading the maiden speech of some aspirant for fame on the floor of Congress. Nowhere is this change in the community more observable than among our farmers.

The last few years of unprecedented prosperity have enabled them, in a majority of cases, not only to pay off their incumbrances, but to minister to the tastes and gratify many of the wants of their families in a way which cramped means and heavy debts had heretofore prevented. That some of these wants are artificial and not a few of the tastes meretricious, any philosopher or utilitarian would prove in fewer words than are comprised in this introduction, but being neither the one or the other, I shall be satisfied if able to *persuade* farmer's wives and daughters that ostentation is no proof of refinement, nor fine clothes an evidence of gentility.

History tells us that barbaric nations emerge slowly into the light of civilization, and when I see the outré attempts of some of my country women to ape style and habits adapted only to monarchical institutions and a hereditary aristocracy, I am forcibly reminded of the story of the African King, who by way of honoring civilization, received his English visitors surrounded by the trappings of state, calmly seated under an umbrella his *sole* protection, when pity and contempt both vanish before a potent sense of the ludicrous. But assailing the follies of fashionable life may well be left to abler pens, and if the touch of ridicule to which we are so notoriously susceptible, has the power to amend our national faults here is fair opportunity to try the effect of the same improving weapon upon classes and individuals. It is to those who, occupied with the toils incident to a busy country life, find but little time or money to spend upon the ceaseless frivolities of fashion that I now address myself.

The temptations of extravagance to which they are exposed is of a somewhat different nature from those which beset their friends of the city. The family of a wealthy farmer will content themselves with but occasional additions to the plain substantial furniture which has served the preceeding generation, satisfied with the unfading home-made carpet and straight backed windsor chairs, if only accompanied by those indispensable accessions to a pleasant home, perfect order and neatness. They will rest contented with the tallow-candle and the blazing hearth fire, mingling, perhaps, with their sense of personal comfort, a feeling of pity for the citizen, condemned to the annoyance of glaring gas-light and cheerless furnace-heated rooms. It is not here that those habits of sentimental luxury which proved the ruin of a mightier republic are fostered. The yellow covered literature has not yet superceded the cook-book, nor conventional politeness usurped the place of that warm hearted hospitality which welcomes the weary wanderer, and extends to the honored guest at a farmer's fireside the sacred privileges of home.

I am aware that it is treading upon delicate ground to venture the assertion that the dress of my country friends is not always suitable to their situation. Extravagance is relative, taste is arbitrary. That which is proper for the wife of a millionarie is very much the reverse for the wife of the man who counts his yearly income by hundreds. But the taste which adds lustre to the diamond and refinement to gold, is equally indispensable in the elegant dressing room of the one as at the more simple toilet of the other. Suitability of material and harmony of color are first to be considered. If our means are ample and the judgment comes the *best* (which must not be misunderstood to mean the *finest* or costliest) will probably be chosen. Remembering whether it be silk or calico the circumstances under which it will be worn must be an important consideration. The wealth of Rothchild or Astor would excuse want of taste in arraying oneself in a white blonde hat and crape shawl of the same color, for a ride of five or ten miles to church through dust six inches deep, or what is as bad, a dazzling, misty atmosphere which discolors the material and effaces the skill of the milliner.

There is also a want of personal neatness in the appearance of limp ribbons and draggled dresses which the richness of the material only serves to aggravate. And no amount of after labor is sufficient to restore such articles to their pristine beauty. How much more servicable are straw bonnets and mantillas of black silk or any other color that "won't show dirt," than the elaborate finery whose only effect has been disfigurement, which is bringing in a very small percentage on the investment. In this condemnation of white material for country wear I would not be understood as including cambrics, muslins or any of those articles of attire which when washed are capable of being restored to their original purity. There is a freshness and simplicity in dresses of this description which fits them peculiarly for summer wear in the country, adapted as they are to all ages, equally suitable whether seen in the flowing robe of the infant, the full dress of the maiden, or the simple morning gown of the matron.

If on a walk to visit a neighbor one should feel satisfied with a large sun-bonnet having ample cape, carrying a good sized parasol and not one of the tanning inventions called "sunshades," fit only for a city promenade where shade trees and rows of brick houses act as a shield from the rays of sun.

No country girl need be told that thick veils are at all seasons indispensable to their comfort, yet one of the coldest days this past winter, I saw a sleigh full of ladies riding in the teeth of a furious north-west-wind without any covering for their faces and scarcely any on the head—the modern clam shell pattern for ladies' hats not being exactly a *covering*.

To sum up this long "lecture" with a moral, what I wish to inculcate is this, whatever may be the prevailing fashions of the day we should suffer our own good sense to select that which is most suitable for our situation and eschew all inventions intended solely for the accommodation of city friends.

SOAP-MAKING EXPLAINED.

J. P. C. says "he helps the women get the lye ready for spring soap-making," (this he should do, and also,) "follow their directions in setting up the leach." But he inquires "what the lime is put in for!" Perhaps he and others would like a little of the chemistry of the operation." It is difficult to fully explain the subject to those who have not read, at least, as much of chemistry as was given in the series of articles published in our thirteenth and fourteenth volumes.

The alkalies—(P. S. A. L. M.)—Potash, Soda, Ammonia, Lime, and Magnesia, &c., readily dissolve oily, greasy, and resinous or pitchy matters, and they are, therefore, useful to wash off or dissolve such substances from the skin or clothing. But the pure or uncombined alkalies are too caustic (burning or eating) to be used alone, so we combine them with some other substance. Thus: Potash united with oil, or grease of any kind, produces *soft* soap. If Soda is used instead of Potash, *hard* soap is formed. Ammonia, united with oil, forms a kind of soap or linament, commonly called "Opodeldoc."

Lime dissolves grease also, but will not form a good or convenient soap, since lime does not dissolve fully nor readily.

Ley is simply a solution of the Potash washed out of the ashes in leaching. Greasy substances are added to this, and boiled down until the excess of water is evaporated, and the soap left of the desired consistency. A little lime placed under or mingled with the ashes in the leach, adds to the alkaline strength of the ley, and we think theory is in accordance with the popular practice of using the lime. There is little danger of using it too freely, since 778 lbs. of cold water, or 1,270 lbs. of hot water will only dissolve 1 lb. of lime. Most of the washing fluids sold about the country, ready prepared or by recipe, contain a large proportion of lime.

Resin or pitch will take the place of grease, and is much used in manufacturing the cheaper kinds of brown soap. The finest qualities of toilet soap contain olive oil (sweet oil) in place of tallow or lard. It is probable, that for all coarser work—washing garments, scouring floors, &c., the low priced brown soaps are just as good as white soaps, and they are consequently, cheaper.

"Whale Oil Soap" is formed of potash and impure unsalable fish oil. Its unpleasant odor injures it for common use, but improves it for washing trees infested with insects.

POTASH always yields a *soft* or mucilaginous soap; SODA, on the contrary, produces *hard* soap when too much water is not left to keep it in a state of solution. Soft or potash soap can be changed to hard soap by the addition of common salt. In this case, there is an entire change of elements, Soda is formed from the salt, and this then takes the place of the Potash, giving us the hard or soda soap.*

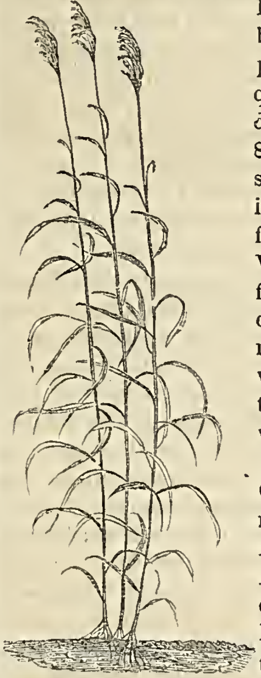
Potash, as is well known, is prepared from wood and ashes. The water leached through is boiled down until the impure potash remains in the bottom of the boiling vessel. When purified it is white, and generally contains one equivalent of carbonic acid, KO, CO^2.. It is then made to combine with another equivalent, and becomes Pearlash or Salaratus, (KO, CO^2, CO^2.) The common potash is often purchased, dissolved in water, and united with any greasy matters, when it forms a fine white soft soap.

CULTURE OF MILLET.

We have several inquiries on the subject of raising Millett, but not having had recent experience on the subject, ourselves, we give below, from Allen's American Farm Book, a condensed description of the mode of sowing and cultivation. We think this an important crop, and profitable when intelligently managed. Like almost every other article we raise, Millet requires a good soil to yield a profitable return. With this and proper attention, few of the forage or grain crops can be better worth the attention of the farmer. Some of our friends who have raised it for many years regard it of equal or greater value than their best meadows of timothy or clover.

MILLET, (*Panicum Milliaeeum.*)—This is the species of millet usually grown in the United States. In its form and the manner of bearing its seeds, the millet strongly resembles a miniature broom corn. It grows to the hight of two to four feet, with a profusion of stalks, heads and leaves, which furnish excellent forage for cattle. From 60 to 80 bushels of seed per acre have been raised, and with straw equivalent to one or two tons of hay; but an average crop may be estimated at about one-third of this quantity. Owing to the great waste during the ripening of the seed, from the shelling of the earliest of it before the last is matured, and the frequent depredations of birds which are very fond of it, millet is more profitably cut when the first seeds have begun to ripen, and then harvested for fodder. It is cured like hay, and on the best lands yields from two to four tons per acre. All cattle relish it, and experience has shown it to be fully equal to good hay.

CULTIVATION.—Millet requires a dry, rich, and well pulverized soil. It will grow on thin soil, but best repays on the most fertile. It should be sown broadcast or in drills, from the 1st of May to the 1st of July. If for hay, and sown broadcast, 40 quarts per acre will be required; if sown in drills for the grain, 8 quarts of seed will suffice. It will ripen in 60 to 75 days with favorable weather. When designed for fodder, the nearer it can approach to ripening, without waste in harvesting, the more valuable will be the crop.


INDIAN, OR GRAND MILLET.

The Indian, or Grand Millet, is much cultivated in Asia Minor, Egypt, Arabia, the West Indies, and elsewhere. It grows from four to six feet high, affording a large quantity of forage, and much seed or grain, which is known as Guinea corn. This is ground into flour and used by the laborers where grown. It is also an economical food for cattle, swine, and fowls. It is not raised to any extent in the United States, but might be advantageously introduced into the Southern States.

SOFT JUMBLES—BATTER PUDDING—GERMAN TOAST.

Editor American Agriculturist :

As you esteemed my former "recipes" worthy of a place in your paper, I send you three others in common use among my acquaintances. They may have been in print before, but if so, I have not seen them.

SARAH.

SOFT JUMBLES.—Two cups of sugar, rolled fine; one cup of butter, one cup of milk, with half a teaspoonfull of saleratus dissolved in it; four eggs, well beaten; and and flour enough to make it rather thicker than pound-cake. Beat well after all the ingredients are put together; rub over some square tin pie-pans with a bit of sponge dipped in melted butter, and put in the mixture rather more than an inch thick. Bake in a quick oven; when cold, cut it in squares.

BATTER PUDDING.—To eight eggs, put eight spoonfuls of flour; beat them well; then add a quart of milk; butter a dish and bake. Serve with wine or brandy, and butter and sugar, rubbed together. For wine or brandy, substitute lemon-juice.

GERMAN TOAST.—Take a small loaf of baker's bread, a day old, and cut in slices an inch in thickness; make a custard of four eggs, well beaten, to a quart of milk, adding four tablespoonfuls of sugar; soak the bread in the custard until it becomes saturated; then fry the bread in fresh butter till nearly browned. Serve with lemon sauce.

THOSE GREAT EARS OF CORN—GOURD-SEED CORN AT THE SOUTH.

[In our February issue, page 99, we published an account of several large ears of corn, raised respectively by Hon. Edward Everett of Massachusetts, Mr. F. R. Rives of Virginia, and Mr. M. W. Phillips of Mississippi. As these ears appeared to have about the same superficial area, though differing not a little in the number of kernels, we suggested that each gentleman weigh the shelled grain. The following letter in reply was so delayed by mail that it did not reach us until our April number was made up.—ED.]

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist :

SIR: At your suggestion, I have weighed the corn from the ear that I counted the grains upon, and sent you the number, (1276 kernels.) It weighs, upon our small platform scales, precisely 16 ounces. I weighed the corn from another ear, which had only 20 rows and 820 grains, the grains larger and appears heavier; it weighed 14 ounces.

We have of the first corn, ears that have 24, 26, and as high as 28 rows, the kernels being generally large. It is the purest article of *gourd seed*, called "shoe peg," that I can find. It has sold at $2 per bushel—select seed corn—while corn was selling at 50 cents. Of course the selection makes a difference in price. I have not examined for better ears; my overseer tells me to-day, he has counted as high as 1,500 grains. I do not suppose it will feed as well as the heavier corn, though it may be better for our work stock, where our feed is corn and corn blades only. It measures more from the barrel in shelling, than any corn I have ever tried. After testing many varieties, I have settled down upon this. I have now in my desk three varieties to test.

The weevil injures the flint varieties far more than the *gourd seed*, and as I have said, owing, I think, to the shuck (husk) on the former being less, and thin and soft, while on the latter it is more abundant, thick and coarse. I shall have one field of 100 acres planted with the best seed I can select, and if a favorable year, with no storms, will not be content under an average of 40 bushels. and may make 50. Land is good. It will be planted on the level, and cultivated shallow. I have other land to be in corn, that is richer, but not so favorably situated for early planting. Yours, with respect,

M. W. PHILLIPS.

P. S.—I heard to-day, of an ear in Vicksburg, from Illinois or Indiana, that has 2,700 grains, but I have not seen it, and must see, handle and count, to believe.

EDWARDS, Miss., March 11, 1856.

Why is a married man like a candle?
Because he frequently goes out of a night when he oughtn't to.

No man sinks to the lowest vices in a day.

---

* The Chemical reader will understand that salt is Chloride of Sodium, (Na Cl,) and Potash (KO.) is an Oxide of Potassum (Kalium). When these are united, we may suppose the Oxygen (O.) and the Chlorine (Cl.) to change places, forming Soda (Na. O.) and Chloride of Potassum, (K. Cl.) thus: KO &Na. Cl=Na. O&K. Cl. The soda now unites with the oily matters, yielding hard soap, and the Chloride of Potassum remains in solution.

DO OUR EASTERN FARMERS BETTER THEIR CONDITION BY REMOVING TO THE WEST.

NUMBER TWO.

Our remarks in the March number were partly historical. To illustrate our subject they must be continued, to a limited extent. With the opening of the Erie Canal, in 1825, the facilities of emigration were greatly promoted. Emigrants from East, by the Hudson river, had but to proceed to Albany or Troy, and then take passage on canal-boats, with all their home comforts about them, proceed to Buffalo, thence by steamboat to any part then accessible on the great Lakes beyond. By these means they were enabled to carry with them a large proportion of their household goods, and surround themselves with many more comforts than under the old way of removing—in wagons. The *prairies* and oak-opening countries of the West, had by this time been reached, where the emigrants soon brought the land into cultivation, and within a year or two, raised sufficient crops for their family support, without the toil-wearing process of cutting and clearing the heavy forest lands which the early emigrants had encountered. Northwestern Ohio and Michigan were now opened and accessible—abounding in fine prairies and scattering forests, with a fine corn and wheat soil, readily brought into use; and over those inviting regions the new settlers flocked, and nestled down like pigeons. Emigration, in fact, like fish, always runs in shoals, showing the *gregarious* disposition in that, as in everything else. Thus, we have witnessed the tide of *movers* for a given period, all wending in one direction. After "New Connecticut," which was the "Western Reserve" of Ohio, had got about one-third or one-half peopled, and fine lands were still to be had among "old" settlements, with schools and churches, and quite passable roads, for three to five dollars an acre, emigration went far beyond them, to the "Maumee Country," the "White Pigeon," "Prairie Round," and "Washtenaw," and Saint Joe," and all the country thereabouts in Michigan; Northwestern Ohio, and Southern and Central Michigan, and Northern Indiana, were rapidly sprinkled over with new farms, log cabins, and a busy, hopeful, industrious people.

About 1830, Chicago was discovered, and two or three years after, the Indians being purchased out by the Government, away rushed the increasing tide of emigration into that quarter. Even now, Ohio had got *too narrow* for the settlers who, but a few years before, had moved into it as the *ultims-thule* of Western progression, and thousands of them sold out, and packed up their chattels, to find this still better world beyond. The land speculating mania now, in 1834–'5–'6, had got fairly hold of all the American World, and it was at once discovered, that of the hundreds of millions of acres at the West, there would soon be a *scarcity* of land, and everybody who could command money enough to locate a "quarter section" at "Government price," scratched it together, and hied away to Western Ohio, Michigan, Northern Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, to plant it, when, for the next fifteen years, they could neither get their money back nor occupy their purchases. The "Saginaw Country" of Michigan, with its vast pine forests, and the Fox, and Rock, and Illinois River lands of Illinois, had now been discovered, which absorbed untold investments—all to prove rapid fortunes to the new adventurers. With this speculative mania, bundled along emigration, in shoals of farmers, mechanics, merchants, professional men of all variety and grade, with high hopes and sanguine expectations of fortune, fame and happiness.

It is bootless to tell how sadly the splendid fortunes of the capitalists—in prospect, the happy anticipations of the emigrants, in all their dreams of competence and wealth, had vanished in the sudden convulsions of 1837 to 1842. Ruin, bankruptcy and straightened means, according to the depth which the spirit of speculation had drawn in its victims, now pervaded all and every part of the vast territory over which it spread; but the indomitable energy and perseverance of the sufferers worked them through, "somehow or other," and by the year 1845, the whole country was again "wholesome," in its pecuniary affairs, and the tide of Western emigration, moderately but steadily filling up the vacant places in the wide, wild territory which had previously been appropriated to private investment. Men having come again into their right senses, wild lands had got back into Government prices; and untold thousands of acres were purchased by the new emigrants of the speculators, for less than had been paid for them ten years before, taxes and interest thrown off. From 1840 to 1850, the great vacuum between Lake Erie and the Mississippi, great portions of which had been grasped by the speculators, now gradually filled up. People had now discovered, that in their eagerness to get to the "choicest" lands far West, they had passed, unobserved, hundreds of miles east of where they finally located, *better* lands, now to be got at less prices than they had paid beyond; and, although now too late to profit by that knowledge themselves, thousands of later emigrants had found it out, and stopping short, purchased them at low prices, and founded comfortable homes and good estates for themselves and their families, amid good society, with schools, churches, good roads, and better markets; and it is scarcely worth while to say, that the later emigrants, *with means in their hands*, made much better investments in purchasing partially improved farms, and contiguous wild lands in the previously settled districts, at low prices, than those who had gone far beyond, and ten years in advance of them.

Now the *railroad* spirit had fairly commenced its career, dull markets and low prices for the vast agricultural supplies of the great West, began to feel the new stimulus of cheap and ready transportation to the Eastern markets. These avenues, as they became rapidly opened, gave a new stimulus to agricultural enterprise. *Foreign* immigrants, arriving every year by hundreds of thousands, chiefly destined for the West, gave a new impetus to *native* enterprise, and away went the world again, on the wings of speculation, discovery, improvement; and now innumerable lines of railway are built, and projected, and in progress all over that vast, level Western world, penetrating through every State west of New-York and Pennsylvania, to the farthest verges of Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri—even unto Kansas and Nebraska; aye, to the copper mines of Lake Superior, and the great Red River of the North, with all the accompaniments of new cities, and opening farms, embracing the wildest imaginations of the active population of that far-off world, in fortune and happiness. Thus things now are—and everything affecting the substantial prosperity and improvement of both people and country, are in a marvellous career of progress.

Yet, all this we have related, is in the *aggregate*. The great mass of created wealth and action has been the result of *individual* enterprise and industry; and *individually* it must be viewed, to determine the application of such example to the *personal* circumstances of such as contemplate a change of home, personal relation and property, from where they now are, to a new settlement and home, and have, amid new society, or no society at all, in an untried climate, a fresh soil, with far distant markets, embracing new modes of agriculture, and some new articles of production.

In the mass of people, emigration is impulsive. Thousands set out from their old homes, to find new ones in the West, uncertain where they are to bring up, led off by the glowing accounts of some friend or relative who has gone before them, and seeing nothing on their way there but such as is beneath their glowing expectations of finding at the end of their journey. Arrived there, their powers are exhausted; they are warmly welcomed by their friends, high hopes are infused into their hearts, and frequently, without examination into the real facts which ought to determine their final conclusions, they find themselves with a farm on their hands, their capital invested, and their ready means exhausted. In short, they must now address themselves to the sober vocation of going to work and getting a living. The new settler has now time to *think*, and *after* he has *irrevocably acted*, begin to ascertain whether he has made a right or a wrong conclusion. We shall look into this matter in another paper.—Ed.

Books, Pamphlets, Addresses, &c.—Our friends have been quite liberal in their contributions to our table for sometime past, but for reasons given elsewhere, it has been impossible for us to *read* much the past month. Ere long we shall be able to "post" ourselves on such matters, and then our readers.—Ed.

A lazy fellow once declared in a public company, that he could not find bread for his family. "Nor I," replied an industrious mechanic, "I am obliged to work for it."

LUCERNE—A VALUABLE CROP FOR PASTURAGE AND HAY.

In a morning conversation with Mr. J. F. Clou, upon the Lucerne crop, we gathered the following items: Mr. Clou formerly resided near Lyons, France, but now cultivates a farm between Poughkeepsie and Hyde Park, on the Hudson River. Three years ago, he sowed three acres of Lucerne on a rich, moderately dry soil. The plot was first sown with oats, harrowed in, about the last of April. The ground, naturally fertile, was deeply plowed and sub-soiled, and a good coat of manure applied. This thorough preparation is desirable, since the Lucerne crop is expected to remain without resowing for many years. The deep tillage is also essential, as Lucerne is very deep-rooted. In the south of France, the long large roots are often dug up, dried, and sold in bundles as firewood. The ashes are white, strongly alkaline, and considered very valuable.

On the field above referred to, after harrowing in the oats, 16 pounds of Lucerne seed per acre was sown broadcast, and covered with a light harrow, and afterwards rolled. A large crop of oats was taken off at the usual season, and two weeks after, the field was covered with a green mass of Lucerne. When over a foot high, a part of it was mowed, and the rest pastured. This Mr. C. now considers bad policy. He advises to leave the last growth of each season as a mulch and winter protection.

The next season, (the dry summer of 1854,) five distinct cuttings (one a month,) were made, besides leaving the last growth over for winter. The first cutting was 25 to 30 days earlier than that of any other grass. Each cutting was full 1½ feet in height. During the entire drouth this field continued green and luxuriant—the deep roots extending below the reach of the sun's effect.

Last spring (1855) a fire, on the 12th of May, destroyed Mr. C.'s barns and other outbuildings, including hay, grain, &c. The Lucerne field was immediately resorted to, and furnished an abundant supply of feed for the farm stock.

Now, (April 14,) the field presents a green appearance; and on one side, where the surface was protected by a coat of leaves from trees near by, the grass is already three to five inches high.

Another sandy field on a side hill, was sown last season in a similar manner to the above, and is covered with a thick, green mass. This field has a southern inclination, which adapts it better to the growth of this crop. If the ground be too cold and wet, and far North, there is danger of Winter-kill, The heaving of the ground breaks or draws out the long roots.

From his own experience and observation in this country, and especially in France, Mr. Clou is quite confident that Lucerne is one of the best of grasses, especially for Virginia, and even further North.

We now, as heretofore, earnestly commend this subject to the attention of farmers. Let those who can, try an acre or two at least. The seed can be obtained at most Agricultural stores. The price this spring is about 25 cents per pound.

In addition to what is said above, we find in the American Farm Book the following description and illustration, with the directions for cultivation.—Ed.]

LUCERNE.

Lucerne (*Medicago sativa,*) is one of the most productive plants for forage, ever grown. It was extensively cultivated by the Greeks and other nations of antiquity; and it has been a prominent object of attention in Italy, Spain, France, Holland and Flanders. Its relative value as compared with clover (*T. pratense*), is decidedly inferior, while its absolute value per acre, is much greater. It was early introduced into this country. Chancellor Livingston published his experiments with it from 1791 to 1794, by which he estimates that he cut in one season, at the rate of 6 1-5 tons per acre, in five cuttings, yielding a profit of over $35 an acre. It bears three or four crops per annum, containing from three to eight tons of hay. Those who have cultivated it, pronounce it hardy, and as capable of successful growth in this country as clover; but to reach the highest product, it requires a richness of soil and carefulness of cultivation, which would give an enormous produce to its more humble rival.

Manner of Cultivation.—It must have a deep, dry, loamy soil, free from weeds, and well filled with manure. A suitable crop to precede it is corn or potatoes, heavily manured and kept clean. Then plow in the fall, and add 40 bushels crushed bones per acre; and early in April, harrow thoroughly, and sow in drills, from 1 to 2½ feet apart, at the rate of 8 to 10 pounds of seed per acre. Stir the ground and extirpate the weeds with the cultivator and hoe, carefully pulling out by hand any that may be found in the drills. It may be lightly cropped the first year, and more freely the second, but it does not attain full maturity till the third. The roots strike deep into the ground, and being a perennial, it requires no renewal except from the loss of the plants by casualties. It should be cut before growing too large, and cured like clover.

Liquid manure is good for it, as are also gypsum and ashes. Bard-yard manure is occasionally necessary; but to avoid weeds, it must be thoroughly fermented to destroy the seeds. It is sometimes sown broadcast, but the rapid progress of weeds and grass in the soil, will soon extirpate it if they are suffered to grow; and there is no means of effectually eradicating them but by cultivating the Lucerne in drills, and the hoe and cultivator can then keep the weeds in subjection. It is one of the most desirable plants for soiling. From the care and attention required, the cultivation of lucerne is properly limited to an advanced state of agriculture and a dense population, where labor is cheap and products high. In the neighborhood of large cities, it may be advantageously grown, and in all places where soiling is practiced.

A FARMER'S EXPERIENCE WITH SPRING WHEAT.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

In response to the invitation in your April issue, I give you my practice and experience in growing spring wheat. I plow all the ground I can in the fall, ten inches deep, keeping for the purpose a team weighing from 1,300 to 1,600 pounds. My soil is undulating, consisting of clay on the eminences, and muck in the depressions.

I have used three varieties of wheat of late years, viz.: Fife, China and Black Sea. I have about concluded to discontinue sowing the Black Sea, thinking that I can raise the other two varieties as cheaply and as safely against rust, while they will bring me from one to two shillings more per bushel in market. I have raised principally the Fife, the past season. I obtained $1 87½ per bushel for 613 bushels, which was as much as was paid for China at the time. The miller says that it does not make quite as white flour as the China, but that it makes enough more to enable him to pay as much for it as for the China.

The Fife variety has two advantages to the farmer over the China: First, it does not shell so easily in the field, and second, it is not so apt to crinkle down by wind and in rainy weather.

The past season demonstrated this perfectly. My Fife stood up nicely, while the China was down almost as badly as the Black Sea. This was the case as far as my observation extended.

I have a heavy cultivator, drawn by my "big team," which mellows the ground almost as deep as it is plowed where it has not packed down during winter (as is sometimes the case with fall-plowed land, where it has been imperfectly drained). Fall-plowed ground should be as effectually drained by dead-furrows or otherwise, as if sowed to a winter crop. Where the ground is not perfectly mellow, I cultivate twice in a place before sowing, and always follow twice in a place with the harrow after sowing.

Grass or clover seed is sown after harrowing and before rolling, which leaves the surface of my land in a beautiful condition—much better than it can be made by spring plowing.

I always aim to sow my wheat as soon after the 1st of May as possible, and do not care to sow it any earlier, lest it should not escape the wheat midge. By this late sowing my wheat has escaped this pest, while that of my neighbors, sown ten days to a fortnight earlier, has suffered severely. My wheat the past season yielded 755 bushels from 35 acres of breadth.

Owing to the wetness of the season, it did not do as well on the muck land, which produced too rank a growth, and blasting from one-half to one-fourth of the length at the top of the ear or head. I sow 1¼ bushels of Fife, and from 1¼ to 1½ bushels of the China, per acre. L. Kieffer.

Stone Mills, Jefferson Co.,
New-York, April 7, 1856.

MILK FEVER IN COWS.

Stamford, C. W., April, 9, 1856.

Editor of American Agriculturist:

In four years I have lost three valuable cows by what here is usually termed—Milk Fever. In England called less genteely but quite as expressive, "down calving." In one case, the cow was turned into the field well at night, was not seen again until after breakfast, and was dead by ten o'clock P. M. A second lived eight days, and the last five days, from the time of being noticed as sick. All three were in the first or second day from calving. The symptoms were a total prostration of strength, with a high fever. This were first treated by bleeding, and then linseed tea, and oat or corn meal pottage for a cooling drink, given in small quantities every two or three hours. All have been great losers from their extra milking qualities, and to such I learn the disease is confined or commonly so.

If any among the readers of the Agriculturist can point out a remedy or cure for so serious a complaint he will confer a favor probably on many by making it public.

The books, so far as I have consulted them, recommend bleeding first, then a soft opening drink, and if the animal live four or five days nourishing or spicy drinks, as the wind is often troublesome. My last cow a few days since suffered much from this cause, and on opening her the gall-bladder, and stomach, or runnet, were all distended beyond their usual capacity; while the manifold or third stomach, was packed close, and tight with food in a good state, except being rather dry so as to obstruct the regular passage. The lungs highly inflamed—all other parts exhibiting a healthful tone.

Bleeding I have lost faith in. One of my neighbors gives two or more doses of salts at proper intervals with success. Serious disorders sometimes require desperate remedies. This complaint is more common in England and less fatal. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Can bleeding or milking be safe if resorted too before calving?

Any one giving a practical answer to the above queries, will oblige at least one regular reader of your paper. E. Jones.

[We forwarded a proof of the above, to Mr. Lewis F. Allen of Black Rock, and received the following reply in time to go with the letter itself.—Ed.]

Of my own experience I know little or nothing of the above disease. I have, in several instances, both heifers with their first calf, and cows, had them secrete milk in great quantity in their udders for many days before calving. In such cases I had their bags and teats carefully bathed with salt and water, cream, or other softening applications, and milked once or twice a day, which gave them great relief, and facilitated their efforts in calving. I have drawn twenty quarts a day each, from more or less cows for a week or ten days before calving, and in every instance thus treated, both cow and calf did well. Had not this method been resorted to, both cow and calf might have been lost. Sufficient of good, and easily digested food should be given at meal times, and the cow kept quiet. I have never bled cows in such cases, and would not recommend it unless in extreme cases of inflammation where all other relieving applications fail.

PREMIUMS FOR IMPORTANT EXPERIMENTS WITH VARIOUS FERTILIZERS UPON CORN.

Previous to the last Annual Meeting of the New-York State Agricultural Society, we offered some suggestions in reference to giving a more practical turn to the operations of the Society, and recommended an extensive series of experiments, with the various fertilizers in market, upon a variety of crops and upon different classes of soils. The idea suggested was that, while a great Annual Show might awaken an interest for the time being, as well as increase the funds of the Society, we needed some plan by which definite information could be gathered, and something tangible and reliable added to our limited knowledge of the actual value of the present modes of cultivation, and of the fertilizers recommended by various individuals. We proposed, among other things, that thorough experiments should be made under the direct supervision of an intelligent Committee, whose expenses should be borne while in the performance of their duties.

We are happy to learn that these suggestions are to be at least partially carried out, with reference to one important crop.

We are indebted to Col. B. P. Johnson, the Corresponding Secretary, for an advance proof copy of the regulations in regard to the experiments proposed to be made, which we give below, adding, that we hope there will be a large list of competitors, and that the Executive Committee will personally visit and supervise as many of the experiments as possible.

Extract from the Premium List of the New-York State Agricultural Society for 1856:

FERTILIZERS FOR INDIAN CORN.

The Executive Committee deeming it of great importance to ascertain the manure best adapted to Indian corn, one of the most important crops of this country, propose to award premiums for the best conducted and most satisfactory experiments with the manures hereinafter named.

It is desired that the field upon which the experiment is made should have been under cultivation for a considerable length of time, and if it has not been manured, and has been impoverished by continued cultivation of cereal crops, it will be the more acceptable. It is very important to ascertain the amount of phosphoric acid, sulphuric acid, potash, soda, lime, &c., required in the soil for the proper growth of Indian corn.

The *mechanical* condition of the field must be carefully attended to—and all *parts* of the field to be as much alike as possible. One-*fourth* of an acre for each plot, and *two* of these to be without manure of any kind. It is believed that this is as small a quantity of land as will secure reliable results, and it is of the utmost importance that the field experiments should be satisfactory.

PLATE OR MONEY PREMIUM, $75.

No. 1. The following preparations to be tried—each of the Nos. representing one-fourth of an acre.

Nos.
1. Without manure.
2. 4 tons well decomposed barn-yard manure.
3. 4 tons green manure from barn-yard.
4. 100 lbs. sulphate of lime.
5. 100 lbs. sulphate of ammonia.
6. 100 lbs. superphosphate of lime.
7. 75 lbs. of pearlash.
8. 50 lbs. of soda ash.
9. 25 lbs. sulphate of magnesia.
10. 50 lbs. sulphate of lime.
11. 75 lbs. of pearlash, 50 lbs. soda ash, 25 lbs. sulphate of lime, and 25 lbs. sulphate of magnesia.
12. As No. 11, with 100 lbs. sulphate of ammonia.
13. As No. 11, with 100 lbs. superphospate of lime.
14. As No. 11, with 100 lbs. sulphate of ammonia, and 100 lbs. superphosphate of lime.
15. As No. 11, with 50 lbs. sulphate of ammonia.
16. 50 lbs. sulphate of ammonia.
17. 50 lbs. superphosphate of lime.
18. 4 tons barn-yard manure, 50 lbs. each of sulphate of ammonia. superphosphate of lime, pearlash, soda ash, sulphate of magnesia, and sulphate of lime.
19. Without manure.

If potash, soda ash and magnesia cannot be readily obtained, unleached hardwood ashes may be substituted for them.

The *superphosphate of lime* should be made from calcined bones, and should be placed in direct contact with the seed. The sulphate of ammonia should be applied in the hill, with a little soil intervening between it and the seed. The pearlash or soda ash, must not be mixed with superphosphate or sulphate of ammonia before sowing. The other substances can be applied as convenience or custom dictates.

Superphosphate of lime from calcined bones, ground quite fine before admixture with acid, may be made as follows: Grind the calcined bones very fine; then, to 100 lbs. of bone dust add 75 lbs. of water, and mix thoroughly; then add 100 lbs. "brown or chamber" sulphuric acid, and mix completely, and repeat the process until the quantity required is made—(such a superphosphate can be sown with the smallest seeds, without fear of injuring the germinating principals.)

PREMIUM, PLATE OR MONEY, $50.

No. 2. (*Indian Corn*)—Each plot to consist of one quarter of an acre.

Nos.
1. Without manure.
2. Peruvian guano, 100 lbs.[*]
3. Mexican guano, 100 lbs.[*]
4. Commercial superphosphate of lime, 100 lbs.
5. Poudrette, 1 bbl.
6. Tafeu, 100 lbs.
7. Gypsum, 100 lbs.
8. Unleached ashes, 100 lbs.
9. 4 tons barn-yard manure.
10. 100 lbs. Peruvian guano, 100 lbs. superphosphate of lime, 100 lbs. unleached ashes, 50 lbs. gypsum.[†]
11. Without manure.

---

[*] Guano.—In the application of Guano, it should be sown broadcast, and plowed or harrowed in. If applied to corn in the hill, it will certainly injure the seed.

[†] The ashes and gypsum are to be mixed together and sown broadcast before planting, or on top of the hill when the corn is a few inches high. The superphosphate and guano to be mixed together and applied in the hill, with sufficient soil intervening to prevent injury to the seed, or it may be sown broadcast, and plowed or harrowed in, as in Nos. 1 and 2.

To Make a Balky Horse Draw.—The London Times gives a remedy which proved successful. After all sorts of means had been tried and failed, it was suggested that simple remedy used in India should be tried—that is, to get a small rope and attach it to one of the fore feet of the stubborn animal, the person holding the end of the rope to advance a few paces, taking with him the horse's foot, when, as a matter of course, the horse must follow. The suggestion was at first ridiculed, but at last a rope was brought and applied as described, when the horse immediately advanced, and in a few minutes was out of sight, much to the amazement of the crowd. The experiment is simple, and worth a trial.

WHAT OUR STAGE AND RAILROAD COMPANIES PREFER AS FEED FOR HORSES.

At a meeting of the Farmers' Club in this city, last winter, at our suggestion, a Committee, with Dr. Waterbury as Chairman, was appointed, to examine into the method of feeding adopted by the proprietors of the larger lines of stages and city railroads using HORSES and MULES. These companies employ from one to four hundred animals each, and carefully conducted experiments are made by them, in order to economize their feeding expenses as much as possible. The principal investigations were made by Dr. Waterbury, and we are glad to present a part of his report recently furnished us, as follows:

"The amount and kind of food consumed by animals depends on the amount and kind of labor they perform. Fattening animals are generally fed differently from working animals. Species and age make marked differences in the kind of food required by the same habits, climate and season of the year also, to a certain extent. Exercise produces, with animals, both an increased consumption of food and an increase in weight. Beyond this point there is increased consumption of food but a diminution in weight to a second limit, beyond which both are diminished, and the animal is "used up."

The Committee have received returns from the following stage lines in this city, as shown in the accompanying table:

STAGE LINES.	Number of animals.	Miles of daily travel.	Pounds of Cut Hay daily fed.	Founds of Corn Meal daily.	Pounds of salt per month.	Increase of meal for the recent severe term of traveling.
Red Bird Stage Line	116	17	14	18	1½	3¼
Spring-street do....	105	21	14	20	4	3 1-7
Seventh-av. do....	227	22	10	18½	1	2½
Sixth-av. R. R.:						
Horses......	117	17	10	14	2	....
Mules........	211	17	10	7	2	....
N. Y. Consolidated State Company..	335	21½	8	17	2-9	2½
Washing'n Stables, six livery horses.	....	....	12	7⅛*	....	....

** And six quarts of oats at noon.

It is the object of the stage Proprietors to get all the work out of their teams possible, without injury to the animals. Where the routes are shorter, the horses consequently make more trips, so that the different amounts and proportions of food consumed is not so apparent when the comparison is made between the different lines, as when it is made with the railroad and livery horses. The stage horses consume most, and the ivery horses least.

The stage horses are fed on cut hay and corn meal, wet and mixed in the proportion of about one pound of hay to two pounds of meal—a ratio adopted rather for mechanical than physiological reasons, as this is all the meal that can be made to adhere to the hay. The animals eat this mixture from a deep manger.

The New-York Consolidated Stage Company use a very small quantity of salt. They think it causes horses to urinate too freely. They find horses do not eat so much when worked too hard. The large horses eat more than the small ones. Prefer a horse of 1,000 to 1,100 pounds weight. If too small, they get poor and cannot draw a stage. If too large, they ruin their feet, and their shoulders grow stiff and shrink. The principal objection to large horses, is not so much the increased amount of food required, as the fact that they are soon used up by wear. They would prefer for feed a mixture of half corn and half oats, if it were not more expensive.

Horses do not keep fat so well on oats alone, if at hard labor, as on corn meal or a mixture of the two.

Straw is best for bedding. If salt hay is used they eat it, as not more than a bag of 200 pounds of salt is used in three months. Glauber salts is allowed occasionally as a laxative in the spring of the year, and they eat it voraciously. If corn is too new, it is mixed with half rye bran, which prevents scouring. Jersey yellow corn is best; horses like it the best. They cut all the hay, and mix it with the meal and feed it wet. No difference is made between day and night work. The travel is continuous, except in warm weather, when it is sometimes divided, and an interval of rest allowed. In cold weather, the horses are watered four times a-day in the stables, and not at all on the road; in warm weather, four times a-day in the stables, and are allowed a sip on the middle of the route. The amount that the Company exact of each horse is all that he can do. In the worst of the traveling, they fed 450 bags per week of meal, of 100 pounds each. They now feed 400. The horses are not allowed to drink when warm. If allowed to do so, it founders them. In warm weather a bed of saw dust is prepared for them to roll in. Number of horses, 335. Speed varies, but is about four miles an hour. Horses eat more in cold weather than in warm, but the difference cannot be exactly determined. The Company are deadly opposed to the Russ pavement; had rather have cobble stone.

To the above we add an extract from a spicy letter addressed to the Committee during the investigation by Dr. A. Bigelow, of Attica, Ind.—[ED.:

** "I am a great lover of horses—generally keep good ones, and do some fast driving in my business, and notice its effect upon horses; and having used them five years in Vermont, and ten here, I will give you the result of my observation. Vermont horses, like its inhabitants, are almost invariably raised on plain diet, but if the former arrive at maturity without having the "heaves," and the latter consumption, they can beat the world for power of endurance. The horses seldom see oats or any other grain, till they are old enough to work, and then "mighty little," as everything there must be done up on the "cheap." The Indiana colts are generally allowed to eat all, or nearly all the corn they like, summer and winter, commencing as soon as they have teeth to masticate it. The result is, for fast driving, they are comparatively useless forever, though at slow work they do very well. When I first came here, I was struck with the multitude of diseases that horses are afflicted with here, that are seldom or never known in Vermont; and although some of them may be attributed to the climate, I am convinced most of them are caused by giving them too much corn. These diseases are, in part, the following: Stiff complaint, (something like a horse foundered all over,) fistula, sweeney, (perishing of the scapular muscles,) pole evil, general lameness without any apparent cause, and blindness, which is very common. Now, are not all these diseases nearly allied to the gouty inflammations that follow high living in the genus homo? (Hope I do not hit any member of the Club.)

A fine colt, that perhaps never had a halter on him, will be attacked with inflammation of the eyes--one or both--generally sclerotitis or conjunitivis, and in spite of knocking out the "blind teeth," "cutting for the hock," if the corn diet is continued the eyes are lost.

I find that if I keep a horse on corn instead of oats, he will surely "fail up" sooner or later. He will endure through the winter, but it will tell the following summer, though corn be discontinued in the spring. I happened, accidentally, to find a mare five years old, who was so vicious that her master could not use her, and he said he did not care a fig if she starved to death, and treated her accordingly. I bought her, tamed her down, and she is the first sound and hardy horse I have ever had since. I would like to give some of your Long Island boys a chase with her. Therefore, my directions for feeding a Western horse would be, to give him five ears of corn twice a-day, and all the good oats and hay he will eat; for a horse raised on corn, will grow poor on oats and hay alone; but *if* he has been properly raised, do not poison him with corn."

DEAD HORSES, &c.

Editor American Agriculturist:

I would like to call the attention of my brother farmers to the following questions, and have them answered through the Agriculturist.

1. How long will it take a *dead-horse* to waste away, when exposed in an open field or left in the woods?

2. How long would it take a hundred crows to consume the carcase?

3. How many cubic yards will he scent with his perfumery in a hot day of June, July or August.

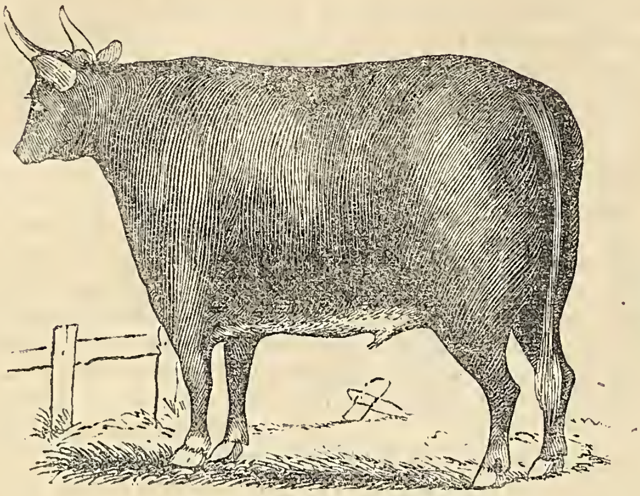
4. Which is the most savory, a dead horse, a dead cow, a dead sheep, or a dead lamb, cat or dog?

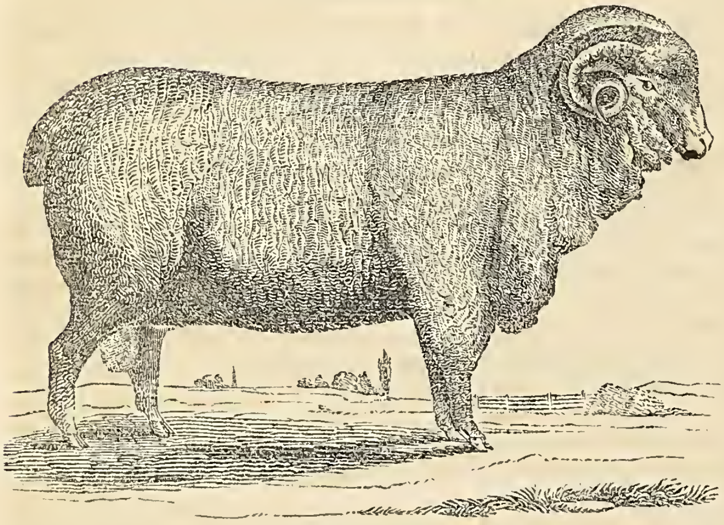
5. If all these dead animals were *buried below* the ground instead of being left on the surface would the public health suffer?

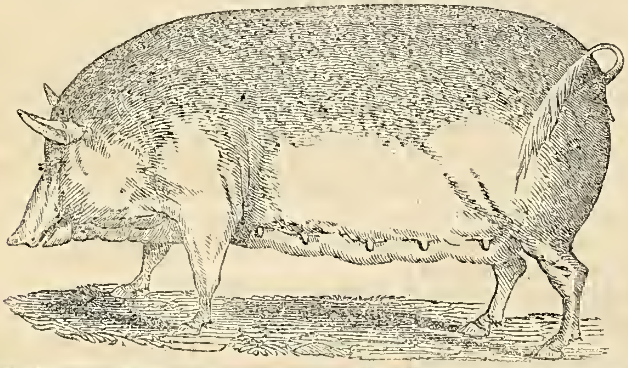
RUSTICUS.

(Not) A POLITICAL ARTICLE.

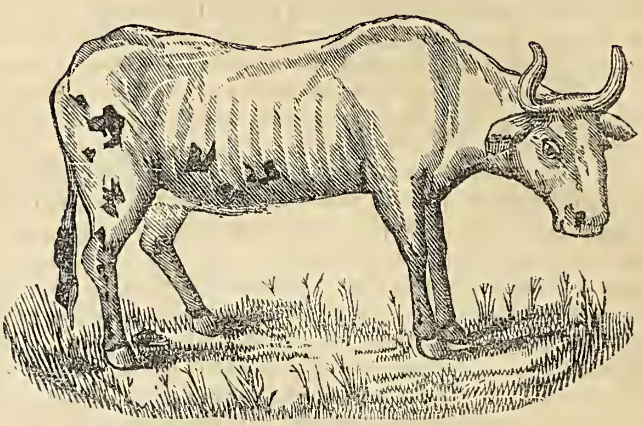
FOREIGNERS.
(Naturalized.)

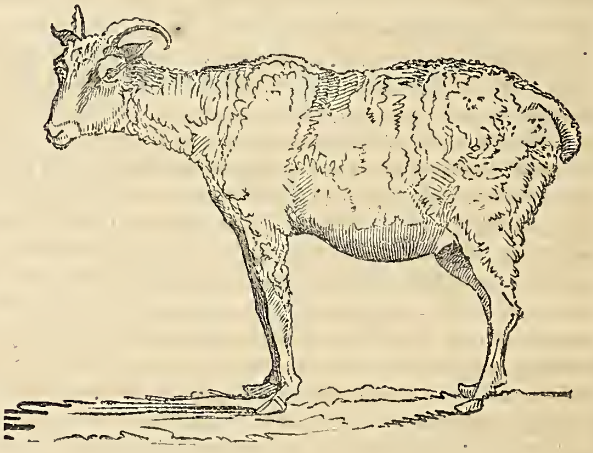


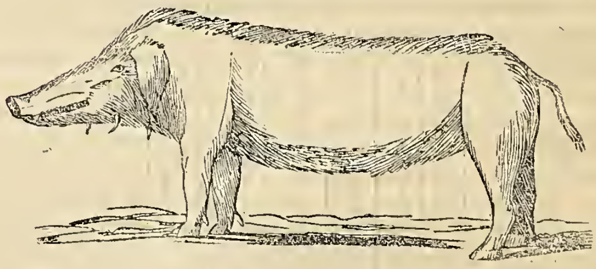




NATIVES.







THOSE "ORNAMENTAL DEAD LAMBS."

A correspondent, referring to the question in the Agriculturist, writes:

I take this occasion to answer "Citizen," what dead lambs are hung upon trees, fences, &c., for. The practice prevails extensively in this part of the country. My neighbors say that it is to keep the dogs from getting them, as that will learn them to kill sheep. But I think it is a bad sign to have dead lambs, any way. It has been the practice of many hereabouts, to have their lambs come in very early in the spring, and then get them all fat for market, as soon as possible, so as to make a profit on the sheep, and make the price of the lambs clear. But our last two winters have been unusually severe, and consequently very hard upon young lambs.

I tried my luck at buying some sheep, in the year 1854, as I had a plenty of keeping for them. I kept them in a warm place, with plenty of good feed and everything that they could want; but out of eleven lambs, I only raised five. They were a mixed breed of Merinoes, from the northern part of the State of New-York. Cannot some of your subscribers tell me, whether the South Downs would not be preferable, and whether they would not stand these hard winters better?

I am very fond of raising early lambs, and any one that would tell me how to do it successfully, would confer a benefit on me and many of my neighbors; and then the "Citizen" would not have his eyes troubled with "dead lambs."

A Young Farmer.

Liberty Corner, N. J., April 7, 1856.

TIMOTHY BUNKER, ESQ.

This gentleman of the old school, whose name has repeatedly appeared in our pages has elicited so much interest, that we give a brief sketch of his career to satisfy the public curiosity. He now holds the office of Justice of the Peace, though he was so late in arriving at this honor, that every body calls him Tim Bunker, just as they used to. He himself blushes at the title, and perhaps feels insulted if any of his old neighbors call him anything else. It is said, however, that his wife in speaking of the husband of her youth to third persons, does sometimes give him the honors, but she is very careful never to call him Esq. Bunker, in his presence.

He was bred and born in Connecticut, and is a product of her soil and institutions so unique, that it were impossible for Tim Bunker to have grown up any where else. He would have been another man. He lives in Hookertown, in the first ecclesiastical society, and all his ancestry for five generations back, have been members of the church of the standing order in that ancient commonwealth. He is not himself a member of the church, but his orthodoxy is as vigorous and sturdy as the most devout member of the Puritan church where he worships. He reveres the institutions of religion, and is as punctual at the meeting house, on the sabbath, as the sexton or the preacher. His model man is Deacon Smith though he follows him afar off both in horticulture, and in religion. He is as zealous as the Deacon in the defence of the speculative doctrines of the church, and is quite as correct in his moral deportment. By all but his intimate friends, he is supposed to be a member; so correct is he, in his opinions and practices. His personal appearance is somewhat striking. He is just about medium size, square built and stout, and though past sixty, can keep up with the smartest of his hands in the field at any kind of work. He has an open manly face, expressive of benevolence, and his look does not belie his character. He is known far and near as an excellent neighbor, always ready to help at a bad job, to change work, to lend his horse or oxen, even when it is not quite convenient for himself. In dress, he is always behind the times. The Sunday hat has been his for five years, and neither rim nor crown has changed with the changes of the fashions. His dress is of the same age, and the only trouble pertaining to dress that agitates him is the apprehension that his habiliments will sometime wear out in spite of his scrupulous care. A change of suit always goes hard with him, and it requires the most adroit management of his good wife to get him safely out of the old into the new. He has been in a condition, which she calls "not fit to be seen" for a full year before she can effect a change of Sunday suit.

In politics Tim Bunker was a whig until the last presidential election since which time parties have become so much split up, that for once he has found himself entirely at a loss. For his part he can not see what people want to keep changing about so, every few years. If the world ever gets finished, and adjusted to a given position, he will be a supremely happy man.

He has always lived upon the ancestral farm, and by a life of industry has succeeded in bying out the rights of the other heirs, and now owns in fee simple, all the paternal acres. He is a good sample of the old style farmer, shy of books and papers, that treat of husbandry, and a frequent quoter of that old proverb that "old birds are not to be caught with chaff." Tim however was once caught, if not with chaff, at least with something very like it. Some five and twenty years ago, there was a Rohan potato fever that infected all Hookertown. Many of his neighbors who read the paper experimented with the article, and among the rest his model man Deacon Smith, went into the speculation. Tim Bunker believed in practical farming, and as these potatoes were manifestly a reality, he bought of the Deacon a bushel of Rohans, for ten dollars. This was pretty warm in the mouth, but as some sold for fifteen the same season, he was satisfied with his bargain. It was the last year of the speculation, and the Fall crop was dull in the market at a dollar the bushel. Tim Bunker rubbed his eyes, with both his forefingers in the harvest, and declared that he would never touch another new thing. But he has repented of that vow, and adopted quite a number of new things that have been tested in the Deacon's garden. He is always certain to make the Deacon pay for his own experiments, and only adopts the new fruit or vegetable, when he is certain it will pay. He has lately got wind of the Dioscorra Batatas. His neighbor lent him the nursery pamphlet, in which the wonderful productiveness of that astonishing tuber was duly set forth. Tim digested its contents, and when he returned the pamphlet, very drily inquired, "Deacon, does not this make you think of the Rohan?" He will not purchase this year.

Conservative as he is, there is manifest progress with Mr. Bnnker, and a real improvement is sure to find its way, in due time, to his farm. The debt and credit account of his adventure in purusit of the blackberry plants as he read it in the Deacon's Agriculturist, struck Tim full in the face. He has not stopped thinking of it yet, and we hope to record his name, before a great while, upon our list of subscribers.

P. S.—The seed has borne fruit. We received the following letter this morning:

HOOKERTOWN, Ct., April 15, 1856.

DEAR SIR: Inclosed please find $1 for the Agriculturist, for one year.

TIMOTHY BUNKER.

O. Judd, Esq., New-York City.

THE MAN DIOGENES WAS LOOKING AFTER.—Judge W. B. Robertson, of the Sixth District Court, in La., on discharging the Grand Jury Tuesday last, reprimanded himself for having forgotten the day fixed by law for the present term of court in this Parish, and for this oversight informed the jury that he should fine himself twenty-five dollars. He immediately drew a check for the amount, and handing it to the Sheriff, instructed him to collect the same and give it to the Female Orphan Association of Baton Rouge.

Lawn, Orchard, Garden, &c.

SHARP HITS AT "BUILDERS" OF SUB-URBAN VILLAGES.

The Horticulturist for April gives some decidedly wholesome advice to the getters up of country villages. The "city Fathers" of many country towns already "built" may profit by a perusal.—ED.

Editor. And so, my worthy friend, you have turned rural improver, and are planning not only for your own homestead, but actually laying out a village?

Improver. Ay, am I! The railroad from the city passes through these farms, which I have purchased cheap, and I am enacting the character of *a founder.*

Editor. Very good; every citizen who becomes a purchaser will have cause to thank you in the improved health of his family, and their increased enjoyments. What is the size of your lots?

Improver. Single lots, twenty feet by one hundred; double lots, just twice that size. In the alleys you see here on the plan, the plots are fifteen by sixty. It cuts up beautifully!

Editor. And, pray, why do you follow so exactly the plan of all rectangular cities?

Improver. Because it cuts up the land to so much greater profit. I mean to clear a hundred thousand!

Editor. That prospective profit is not so clear to me. I can see no advantage you offer; no inducement to leave one closely-packed city to come and found another.

Improver. Why, my dear sir! look at the prices here and at those in town! I sell now for a dollar a foot on ground rent, while, in the city suburbs, prices vary from six to ten dollars.

Editor. That may be very true; but, to beginners, you offer neither good schools, paved walks, water, nor gas; and as for a garden, except one purchases a dozen of your "single lots," and that would be expensive, I shall be greatly surprised if you have any customers.

Improver. Really, you are not very flattering! I go upon the notion that there is a fool born every day, and if I can get but one year's crop into my net, the hundred thousand is secure. They won't find out that it is to be a crowded town till it is pretty well built, and then I needn't care.

Editor. I came to see your lots, induced by your flaming advertisement; you did not know I thought of becoming a purchaser! A glance at your map was discouragement enough; your unblushing avowal of your selfish purposes is apparent on the face of your plan; so, taking no advantage of your declarations, let me point out to you where you are wrong. In the first place, this broad continent is large enough to give every household at least room and verge enough for a kitchen garden, and a place, besides, for his children to play in, without always resorting to the streets. I can see no reason why you should pocket an hundred thousand dollars from the earnings of others when they can as readily make their own purchases on the line of the same railroad.

Improver. I beg your pardon; this is the nearest land to the city that can be bought in this way. Besides, you see I have left lots for a church and a public square.

Editor. A public square! Why, truly, it is a square; but it is not large enough to pasture a single cow, much less to serve as a healthful promenade for a closely packed public. You should have left acres instead of feet, laid it out tastefully, and planted it with a great variety of the best and most beautiful trees.

Improver. Ah yes! you don't catch me paying out cash for such things as those! I have enough to do to persuade people of the advantages I offer. I have an office in town for this purpose, and advertise in all the papers.

Editor. Advantages! You mean to say, you design to take advantage of your purchasers! Now, this is all wrong. Shall I tell you what you ought to do? It is not too late, and if you will follow my advice, you may dispense with your office in town, and the people will come to you.

Improver. Ah! I wish you could bring that about.

Editor. Nothing easier. There is an appreciation of beauty underlying all the rough natures and busy merchants, which, if once awakened, is sure to respond to a good leadership. The ladies, too! Why surely you can have few advocates for your plans among those best portions of the creation. And, without the ladies' approbation, depend upon it, you can accomplish nothing. What you want is, first, to burn your map; get a surveyor and a landscape gardener (a real one, I mean) to lay out your farms according to some well-established principles. Don't think of levelling that knoll! It would be preposterous.

Improver. Excuse me! how should we fill up that ravine?

Editor. There is no occasion to fill up that ravine; to do so you would be obliged to throw an arch over the whole of that beautiful stream of water, and bury one of your best resources for beautiful results. You must build a strong, sound dam, and create a lake.

Improver. A lake! O dear! who would ever buy water lots?

Editor. Keep them, then, yourself, and agree, when you have disposed of one hundred lots, to present the lake to the residents. Place suitable trees around it; border with shrubbery and an intricate walk; place, if you find it will answer, a small island in your lake; plant a rustic bridge to it, and fill it with the choicest shrubs and flowers. Let every purchaser have a key to the whole, and my word for it, you will get more for your whole plot, if your other improvements correspond, than for your abominable city lots, with the old arrangement of alleys in the rear.

Improver. And pray, what would be the other corresponding improvements? I be- to comprehend you.

Editor. Nothing more palpable. Plant out your boundaries judiciously, say with Norway firs, to be kept down, after a few years, by cutting off the leaders; make a properly curved drive through the place, which shall approach in its gentle sweeps every acre or half-acre of the *park!* Yes, a park, for the residence of reasonable human beings, who have enough of city when they are obliged to go to it for shopping. Let every plot be in itself a rural home, so contrived that its owner can pluck his own fruit, keep his own pony phæton, if he pleases, and look out of his windows without seeing brick houses.

Improver. I never thought of this. I will make a little calculation, and see *if it will pay*.

Editor. It will surely pay, and you will be remembered as one of the choice spirits of your age, instead of being—*nobody!*

OUT A FRUIT TREE.

[The following article we transfer from the Philadelphia Saturday Evening Mail—not to endorse all its statements, but because it furnishes several valuable suggestions.—Ed.]

Examples almost without number may be given, where single trees have yielded from five to ten dollars a year in fruit, and many instances in which twenty or thirty dollars have been obtained. If one tree of the Rhode Island Greening will afford forty bushels of fruit, at a quarter of a dollar per bushel, which has often occurred, forty such trees on an acre would yield a crop worth four hundred dollars. But, taking one-quarter of this amount as a low average for all seasons, and with imperfect cultivation, one hundred dollars will be equal to the interest on fifteen hundred per acre. Now, this estimate is based upon the price of good winter apples for the past thirty years, in one of our most productive districts; let a similar estimate be made with fruits rarer and of a more delicate character. Apricots, and the finer varieties of the plum, are often sold for three to six dollars per bushel; the best early peaches from one to three dollars; and pears from hardy and productive trees, two to five bushels per tree, with good management, is a frequent crop; and on large pear trees five times the quantity. An acquaintance received eight dollars for a crop grown on two fine young cherry trees, and twenty-four dollars from four young peach trees, of only six years' growth from the bud. In Western New-York, single trees of the Doyenne or Virgalieu pear have often afforded a return of twenty dollars or more, after being sent hundreds of miles to market. An acre of such trees, well managed, would far exceed in profit a five hundred acre farm.

But the anxious inquiry is suggested, "Will not our markets be surfeited with fruit? This will depend on the judgment and discretion of cultivators. With the exception of the peaches of Philadelphia and the strawberries of Cincinnati, a great deficiency is felt in all our large cities. Of these two fruits, large plantations are brought rapidly into bearing. The fruit, when ripe, quickly perishes, and cannot be kept a week; yet thousands of acres in peach trees, bending under their heavy crops, are needed for the consumption of the one city, and broad, fifty-acre fields, redden with enormous products, send many hundred bushels of strawberries daily into the other. If, instead of keeping but three days, sorts were now added three months, many times the amount would be needed. But the market would not be confined to large cities. Railroads and steamboats would open new channels of distribution throughout the country for increased supplies. Nor would the business stop here. Large portions of the Eastern Continent would gladly become purchasers as soon as sufficient quantities should create facilities for a reasonable supply. Our best apples are eagerly bought in London and Liverpool, where nine dollars per barrel is not an unusual price for the best Newtown Pippins. And by being packed in ice, Doyenne pears, gathered early in autumn, have been safely sent to Jamaica, and strawberries for Barbadoes. The Baldwin apple has been furnished in good condition in the East Indies, two months after it is entirely gone in Boston.

PREPARATION OF A SEED BED.

Very much of the success of cultivating the earth depends upon this. In gardening operations, it is a matter of vital importance. The seed-bed should be *deep*, RICH, and FINE. This last particular is, perhaps, more frequently overlooked than the others. Oftentimes the ground is planted just as the plow or spade leaves it, or only with a slight leveling by the hoe. But it should have, in addition to this, a very thorough raking with a fine-toothed garden-rake. These rakes are very much improved of late years, but their teeth still need to be lengthened, so that they will remove all the small stones and coarse clods to the depth of four or five inches. This fine tilth of the soil gives the first rootlets of the seed a great advantage. They meet with no obstruction in pushing their way into the earth, and find new food in abundance, at every step of their progress. The rain and atmosphere benefit plants much more for having a free seed-bed.—Ed.

ONE WAY TO GET EARLY POTATOES.

A gardener of Newtown, L. I., informs us that he gets good crops of early (or late?) potatoes as follows: He prepares the ground in the usual manner, adding plenty of manure. He then selects seed potatoes of good size, cuts them lengthwise into four pieces each, and plants the pieces eight inches from each other, in rows one foot apart. The ground is then made level and smooth with a roller or otherwise, and a good coating of salt hay spread over the whole surface. The hay keeps down the weeds, preserves the ground moist, and perhaps furnishes some nourishment to the growing bulbs. No hoeing or after cultivation is needed—the whole is summed up in preparing the ground, planting, mulching with salt hay, and digging the nice early bulbs.—[Ed.

THE CULTIVATION OF THE SWEET POTATO AT THE NORTH.

We have just opened our box of seed potatoes, laid down last fall, and our success has been so complete, that we are constrained to say a few words about the cultivation and keeping of this valuable esculent, for the benefit of our Northern farmers.

This root, of course, can be grown to better advantage in the latitudes south of New-Jersey, than farther North, and for those who live in the immediate vicinity of seaports, it may be no object to grow them. They can be furnished from the South at about 75 cents a bushel, and so long as common potatoes command the same price, it is no doubt, better economy to grow a root that is perfectly acclimated. But there are multitudes of farmers living remote from market towns, who seldom see the sweet potato, and who can only have them in plenty upon their tables by raising them. This, we are persuaded, can be done in most parts of the Northern States, with a very little management. It has been grown in the town of Ledyard, Ct., for thirty years or more, even without the aid of a hot bed to start them in the spring. It is a common thing there, for the farmers to grow their own supplies, though they are all near tide-water. We saw upon the grounds of Stephen Stoddard, Esq., of Ledyard, a piece of sweet potatoes, last summer, that would have done cerdit to a Southern plantation. He spoke of them as a common crop, and by packing them in chaff, succeeded in keeping them through the winter.

PRESERVING SEED.

This is a somewhat difficult thing, and it is, perhaps, more owing to this difficulty than to any other cause, that the cultivation of this root is not more general at the North. The tubers selected for this purpose are the smallest, or those about the size of a man's finger. These must be packed in some substance that will absorb all moisture, and protect them against the changes of the weather. Sometimes they are packed in sand, and kept near the furnace in the cellar, or near the kitchen fire. We packed our's in plaster and wheat chaff. We designed the plaster to absorb the moisture in case of decay, and the chaff as a safeguard against cold. They were placed in a room over the kitchen, and had the benefit of the fire in the kitchen stove, which was kept up constantly during the cold winter nights. It is important that they should be put into the packing-box in a dry state, and without any bruises or defects. About three-fourths of those put in came out in good condition; the rest were decayed, probably owing to bruises. The plaster prevented the spread of the decay to the sound tubers.

It is now quite common for nurserymen to keep the young sets of this plant for sale, and those who are near a nursery may easily procure the young plants at the time of setting, without the trouble of preserving them. The tubers are also always to be had in this city, for about $2 a bushel, in the spring, at retail, and there is no difficulty in getting fine plants from the marketable potatoes.

TREATMENT OF THE TUBERS FOR PROCURING SETS.

The best method is to put them in a moderate hot-bed, from the middle of April to the 1st of May. In two or three weeks, the sprouts will be up sufficiently to transplant. The longest shoots may be removed with the thumb nail, without removing the tuber from its bed. In a few days another growth of sprouts will come forward, which may be used for a second plantation, or for supplying any hills that have failed. They should be set out where they are to grow, from the middle to the last of May. If there is no hot-bed at hand, the tubers may be put in hills prepared for them, about the 1st of May.

THE BEST SOIL AND ITS PREPARATION.

A sandy soil is best adapted to this crop, though we have succeeded well on a heavy, gravelly loam. The preparation of the hills is a matter of a good deal of importance. These should be four feet apart, each way, so as to give ample room for the running of the vines, which often reach two or three yards. The hill should be raised eighteen inches to two feet high, and should be well manured. The droppings of neat stock, well mixed with loam or muck, are said to be the best fertilizer. But we have not found this indispensible. The object in raising the hills is to give them the full benefit of the sun and air during the heat of summer. If the spot selected for this crop has a southern slope, it is all the better.

CULTIVATION.

In hoeing this crop, care should be taken to increase rather than diminish the height of the hills. The vines, when they commence running, should be examined once in two weeks, and not be suffered to make roots at the joints. They immediately begin to form tubers wherever they strike root, and if suffered to remain, they will form a multitude of small tubers at the expense of large ones in the hill. By carefully lifting the vines occasionally, they will concentrate all their energies upon the tubers already formed, and will perfect them, both in size and quality.

GATHERING THE CROP.

They will continue to grow until the frost kills the vines. They should be dug on the morning when the first frost is seen, if not before. If they are suffered to remain after the vines are killed, the quality of the tubers is damaged in some way that we are not able to explain. This fact, we presume, is noticed by all who have cultivated this plant at the North. The vine is an ornament to the garden, and we would cultivate it for its beautiful leaves, even if it yielded no roots. The tubers are highly nutritious, and are relished by most persons who have once eaten them. We have found them quite as productive as the common potato, and think they amply repay the extra care needed to bring them to perfection. Our crop was five bushels upon a small patch of garden soil, that would have done well to yield the same quantity of Irish potatoes. The quality is, perhaps, not quite equal to the best Carolinas, but is as good as the Jerseys. The demand for them in the home market was lively enough, and the young folks, like Oliver, were continually longing for more.—[Ed.

HOW TO PLANT SQUASHES, MELONS, &c.

Squashes, Melons, and Cucumbers require a peculiar treatment in order to yield the best results. They will, indeed, grow and bear fruit if they are stuck down almost anywhere, amidst other crops; but we have always succeeded best in giving to these vines a place by themselves, and in preparing hills specially for their growth. A southern aspect is the best, and a warm, sandy or gravelly loam. But a sandy soil is apt to be deficient in moisture at the time when it is most needed to perfect the fruit. We therefore have it well trenched, and compost worked in, at least eighteen inches deep. To prepare a hill, dig a hole thirty inches deep and three feet across; fill this half full of compost, made of three-fourths muck or peat, and one-fourth stable manure. Guano may be substituted for the manure in the compost; fill the remainder of the hole with the surface soil, and elevate the surface a few inches above the common level. About the middle of May plant the seed. When they come up, sprinkle the young plants with a powder made of four parts plaster of Paris, and one part of Peruvian guano, well mixed. This is best applied with a dredging box. It should be put on immediately after every shower, if it rains twice a day. It will keep the bugs off, but only while it remains upon the leaf. The proportions are important. If there is a trifle too much guano in the mixture it will destroy the leaf. The design of the large hole filled with muck, is to retain the moisture for the vines while in the most active state, in July and August. Squashes treated in this way will do their best, and pay for the extra trouble. The best Squashes and the only ones that ought to be raised for the table, are the Boston Marrow and the Acorn. They are just the right size for use in the family, and are of the best quality. The true Valparaiso is of good quality, but is too large. While Squashes are so easily raised, we doubt the economy of raising Pumpkins. A Squash is much richer, and will grow larger. The French seeds sent out from the Patent Office, the last two years, have done very well, and have made a sensation at the Fairs, by their enormous size. They frequently reach a hundred pounds, and sometimes two hundred. They will be valuable for feeding cattle, and perhaps for use in hotels and boarding-houses. Black Spanish, Green Imperial, Mountain Sweet, and the Orange, are good Watermelons. The Nutmeg and the Green Bay are the best among the green-fleshed Melons that we have tested. Both are superb, and ought to be upon every farmer's table in their season.—Ed.

"My dear Polly, I am surprised at your taste in wearing another woman's hair on your head."

"My dear Joe, I am equally astonished that you persist in wearing *another sheep's wool* on your back."

SALSIFY, OR OYSTER PLANT.

This root is as easily grown as the parsnip, and why it is not as generally cultivated we are unable to say. It makes a much more palatable dish, and is certain to be relished by all who affect the delicious bivalves of the same name. If you have a spare square rod of land, do not fail to put in a paper or two of Salsify seed, from a reliable seed store.

Salsify may be sown from the first of April, or earlier, until the second week in May, in this latitude, and later still, further north. The soil should be moderately fertile, and not very heavy, and be spaded pretty deeply, or better, trenched, with a little manure put at the bottom of the trench only. Sow thickly, in shallow drills, eight to ten inches apart, and cover not more than half an inch deep. When the plants are well up weed them, and thin out so that the plants will be four or five inches from each other in the rows. A few weeks after, when the growth is well established, one-half of the weaker ones should be again removed, so as to leave them eight or ten inches asunder for the final growth.

Repeat the weeding afterward as may be needful, and during dry weather give a plentiful watering occasionally. It will be found highly advantageous to add to the water a little Peruvian guano, say, an ounce to two gallons, thoroughly stirred in. Urine from the house, or manure liquids from the stable or yard will answer the same purpose. No other cultivation is required.

In September and October the roots will have attained a considerable size, and you may commence taking them up for use.

When plants are left in the ground till the following Spring, they send up shoots which may be cut and used for asparagus.

The plant is a native of Great Britain. The root is not so large as the parsnip, but may, with good cultivation, be brought to an inch in diameter. The root is hardy, and may remain out all Winter. A part of the crop may be dug and put in the cellar in sand, to be used when the frost prevents digging them.

They make an excellent dish, cut in thin slices, rolled in batter and fried like oysters. How much they taste like that shell-fish will depend somewhat upon the strength of your imagination, and the measure of your faith.—Ed.

OKRA.

This is another plant not yet extensively cultivated at the North, but which deserves a high popularity. It is much cultivated in the Southern and some of the Middle States, chiefly as an addition to soups. Its long green pods, full of seeds, and abounding in mucus, form the chief ingredient in the famous "gumbo soup." It also makes an excellent stew, cooked as snap beans. The plant grows some six feet high, has a beautiful leaf and flower, and is worthy of its place in the garden, for ornamental purposes. The flower resembles that of the cotton plant. The seed should be sown in drills, two-and-a-half to three feet apart, early in May. Thin out the young plants to six inches apart, and hoe frequently, to secure rapid growth. The pods are only good in the green state, when full of mucilage.

We last year secured seeds of this plant, from the Gaboon River, in Africa. They came up well, and matured perfectly. The pod is much shorter and thicker than the variety in common use. The seeds, when perfectly ripe, are said to make an excellent coffee, burnt and ground like the berries of the coffee plant. All who affect soups should give the Okra a place in their vegetable garden. The plant needs no forcing, is hardy, and is grown as easily as sweet corn.—Ed.

BEETS IN THE GARDEN.

We suppose all good gardeners have a thrifty bed of beets already planted, still it is not too late to plant another bed. They may even be sown to the last of this month.

A garden well laid out, with all the vegetables growing in rows, or in imitation of some geometrical figure, presents a fine appearance to the eye, and this practice is to be commended. We have, however, found it advantageous to have a plot of beets in some less conspicuous part of the garden, which was planted more with regard to economy than beauty.

For this purpose we take about a square rod of ground, and as soon as it will do to work it, sow it thickly with some early variety of beets, putting on the seed broadcast, and digging it in with a hoe. If the plants come up very thick, we pull out a part at the first weeding. As soon as they begin to interfere with each other, we pull up a quantity, and boil roots and tops together, and thus have a good dish of greens. The thinning process goes on almost daily till late in the summer, and this single rod of ground furnishes us an abundance of greens, and there is still left growing a good crop of beets, which have been benefited rather than retarded, by the stirring of the ground while thinning them out. We are aware that the above plan contains nothing new to many, but we have visited scores of gardens where the only practice was to sow beets in rows, with the seeds at a distance of three or four inches from each other.—Ed.

THE CABBAGE CROP.

It is not yet too late for the main crop of cabbages. Indeed cabbages to be laid in for winter use *may* be set out all through the month of June. If they mature too early, the heads burst and prove worthless for marketing. It is better to have them still growing in full vigor, when you take them up the last of November for heeling in. Therefore prepare a seed bed the first of this month, and another the last, for successive crops of this vegetable. In making a bed, take a bushel or two of refuse charcoal from the bin too fine too kindle fires, or the cinders thrown out from railroad engines. This is very valuable in inducing fine fibrous roots on the young plants. Rake into the bed also about a half bushel of ashes to the square rod, at the time of sowing the seed. This will prove a safe guard against the attack of the grub. It is also said to prevent the club foot, which often destroys this crop in old garden soils. We have found the Premium, flat Dutch, and the Bergen good varieties for late summer and fall use. Get good seed from a reliable source. There is a great difference in the quality of seed. And now while we are speaking of this crop, we would say to every cultivator, grow your own seed from the finest heads selected for the purpose. This is the safest way to make a sure crop, and to have the size of the heads increase every year.

You can set the young plants thirty inches apart, between the early Yorks, which will be out of the way by the middle of July. If the soil is specially prepared, use no manure from the pig-stye, as it induces the finger and toes, and spoils the crop. Stable manure well trenched in will give a good crop. Sea manures are also valuable for cabbage.—Ed.

NASTURTIUMS VERSUS CUCUMBERS.

Whoever wants a nice pickle, let him plant the seeds of the Nasturtium, or Indian Cress. The vines are rampant, and need a trellis, or brush to support them. They make beautiful screens, wherever one is needed. The flowers are very showy, and surpass many of the products of the flower garden. The curled leaf, stems, and green seed pods are eaten as salads, or made into pickles, rivaling capers. A row of these plants, a rod long, will supply a family. The seed pods should be picked every other day, when they are young and tender. If left till they are old they become hard and more unpalatable. They may be washed clean, and put immediately into vinegar in glass jars, where they will keep a year or more without any additional trouble. Most who have cultivated them prefer them to the cucumber or the pepper. Order a paper of seeds and try them.

CULTIVATION.

Nasturtiums will flourish in almost any soil, but prefer a light, fresh loam. If the ground be very rich there will be too many vines and leaves, at the expense of the pods or berries. They may be sown from the middle of March to the latter part of May, in this latitude—the earlier the better, however. Sow in drills, putting the seeds two or three inches apart, and cover about two inches deep. As above remarked, they need a trellis, wall, or brush, for the vines to run upon. For field cultivation, on a large scale, the rows should be two feet apart, to admit a plow or cultivator between them, but in a garden, six to twelve inches is quite sufficient. Weeding and watering, in very dry weather, is all the cultivation needed. They continue flowering from June to October. The berries, for pickling, should be gathered in August and September, while green and fleshy.—Ed.

A hen is better pleased with a grain of corn than a gem.

EGG PLANT.

This delicious vegetable, after it comes out of the hot bed, and is well established, is as easily cutlivated as the potato. It is a tropical plant and needs forcing in the spring in order to mature in latitudes north of this city. But the plants may be procured the last of May, from the nurserymen and vegetable gardeners for a trifle, and every man can then raise his own vegetable eggs. They are gross feeders, and want a southern aspect and plenty of room, say three feet between the plants.

The taste for the plant is, perhaps, as artificial, as that for the tomato, but once formed it is highly relished. To prepare the fruit for cooking it shonld be cut in slices about a fourth of an inch in thickness, salted a little, and be allowed to remain over night. Fry them with thin slices of pork till they are nicely browned. Two dozen plants well cared for will supply a family.—Ed.

GOOD RADISHES AT LITTLE COST OR TROUBLE.

Every body loves radishes, though some persons of sedentary habits, or with weak digestive organs, are unable to use them. The chief difficulty with such persons is, that they do not masticate them sufficiently. If care be taken to let no particle go into the stomach not mashed as fine as mustard seed, they will digest very easily, and give no trouble.

We have had an abundance of radishes at all seasons, without devoting a foot of ground to their special cultivation. Our plan has been simply this. As soon as the garden has been plowed or spaded, we have sown over it a small quantity of radish seed, broadcast. The subsequent working and planting of the soil buries these seeds, and as they come up, we destroy them as we would weeds where there is not room for them to grow. But there is always some space between rows or hills of other vegetables, where several plants may be allowed to remain till large enough to pull up for the table. Wherever there is any spare room, we scatter a few seeds when hoeing over the ground to kill weeds. This practice we follow up all through the summer, and a single shilling's worth of seed, thus sown in small quantities, every time we have gone into the garden to work, has furnished us an abundance of young and tender radishes at all times. When early peas come to maturity, we have young beets or radishes growing up on the ground occupied by them, from seeds which were sown during the last hoeing they received.

It is well known that on some soils radishes do not grow well, but by our plan of scattering them in every part of the garden, we have always hit upon some spots just suited to produce the nicest roots. Where they happen to be in the way of other vegetables, or where they produce tough, strong bulbs, we cut them down with the hoe and cover them with earth, and they aid to enrich the ground. Thus used, a comparatively small amount of seed will yield a more satisfactory and economical supply, than if a special plot were devoted to their cultivation.—Ed.

RHODODENDRONS—EVERYBODY MAY AND SHOULD HAVE THEM.

Directions for Culture, &c.

During this and the early part of the next month, the Rhododendrons, the finest of all hardy flowering plants, will put on their gorgeous robes and be arrayed in all their glory. Those not acquainted with them can have but a faint conception of the surpassing beauty of both their foliage and flowers. A description would be next to useless—to be fully appreciated they must be seen. (The best description is perhaps found in the etymology of the word. Rhododendron is derived from two Greek words, *Rhodon*, a rose, and *Dendron*, a tree, and signifies a tree of roses.) We propose now to speak of it only in general terms, and refer to the method of cultivation.

First, we may say, that unlike most of the more beautiful and showy flowering plants, the Rhododendron is so hardy, so patient of transplanting, and so vigorous even upon a poor soil, that it can be successfully grown, and with little care, every farmer and every owner of a village lot or plot, however small, may have one or more. Anybody who has room, time, and skill enough to grow a rose, may also have a Rhododendron.

The Rhododendron is usually propagated from the seed, and grows to the highth of five or six feet, though to attain this size requires ten or twelve years from the seed. It forms a complete *evergreen* shrub, with somewhat glossy leaves, of a thick texture, and bears large clusters of white, lilac and crimson flowers, each one of which is large enough for a lady's boquet. Owing to the peculiarity of our climate there have been but few Rhododendrons started from the seed in this country. Messrs. Parsons & Co., of Flushing, have some thirty or forty thousand seedlings, in pots, but they are not an inch in hight, as yet, and it remains to be seen whether the experiment will be successful. They are grown on an extensive scale in England, and the plants, when sixteen or eighteen inches high, are imported by the proprietors of our larger nurseries. The usual hight, when retailed from the nursery, is about one foot. The price of plants of this size has heretofore been about $1 each. They are now sold by the hundred for 50 cents, and even retailed at 50 to 60 cents each.

They can be set out at any season, though April and May are by far the best months for transplanting. They can be moved from place to place every year, if desired, without materially checking their growth or flowering. The foot-high plants, from the nursery, sometimes furnish flowers the first season.

Two species do not require Winter protection, but can be left in the open ground through the coldest weather without injury. This has been abundantly proved during the past Winter. Notwithstanding the long and severe freezing, which has injured many evergreens, always before considered hardy, we have, during the past month, seen thousands of Rhododendrons in vigorous health, and to all appearances unharmed.

Best Varieties for General Cultivation.—There are some 25 or 30 species of Rhododendrons, embracing hundreds of varieties. There are, however, but two species which can be relied upon in this latitude, as having been proved perfectly hardy. These are the Rhododendron Catawbiense and the Rhododendron Maximum. The R. Ponticum is one of the finest in England, but is not sufficiently hardy for out-door cultivation here.

The Rhododendron Catawbiense, though not more hardy, excels the Maximum in the brilliancy of its flowers, and in the color and compactness of its foliage. Everything considered, we advise a choice of the Catawbiense in preference to all others. The plants, as purchased in the nurseries, are seedlings, and the chances are, that no two in a hundred or a hundred thousand will produce blossoms precisely alike, in coloring and shade. This sporting character is one of the beauties of this plant.

Soil.—The Rhododendron will grow well in any garden soil, but will be benefitted by adding, one-half of a sandy peat, light muck, and especially decayed leaves and rotten wood are very good for this purpose.

Transplanting.—As above stated, this can best be done at this season. The roots are very fibrous, and, if not too violently handled, they retain considerable soil when lifted from the ground. If not to be transported far they can be taken up and moved from place to place at any time, about as easy as the furniture in a room. English gentlemen frequently remodel the appearance of a whole lawn, by shifting this and a few other plants around from year to year. When to be sent far they are packed in boxes with some of the soil upon their roots, and in this way may be carried safely to any distance, by land or sea. When received, they are to be set out just like any tree or shrub. Unless the soil be light and peaty it is better to dig out a space, say two feet in diameter, and one foot or more deep, and fill in with a mixture of any good surface soil, peat, decaying leaves, &c. No manure should be used at the time of planting, though a soil well manured a year or two previous is desirable.

Pruning is not required, and the knife should be used very sparingly, if used at all.

A Suggestion.—A friend at our elbow suggests that any one having a number of Rhododendrons in bloom, may lift a number of plants, place them in pots or upon dishes, carry them into a room during an evening when a party of friends chance to be gathered, and the next morning return the plants to their place in the lawn, yard, or garden, without any injury to them whatever.

We have thus endeavored to set forth some of the excellences of this plant, and to give all needed information in regard to its cultivation. If we have overlooked any point we shall be glad to be reminded of it if any one needs further particulars.—Ed.

A good conscience is good company.

NEW-ROCHELLE OR LAWTON BLACKBERRY

This valuable plant may still be set out during the first two or three weeks in May—the earlier the better. We have heretofore said so much in favor of this variety that we will now only add a word or two regarding its cultivation. We have seen it growing and bearing finely on dry upland soil, though Mr. Lawton and others state that it delights in moist soil, and will produce abundantly in the most shady borders of the garden, and even under fruit trees; and they recommend for a permanent plantation, a rich, loamy, and rather humid soil, well manured.

Great care should be taken to keep the roots from the sun, and from a dry hot atmosphere while they are out of the ground. With this as with almost all plants and trees, we recommend to let the roots lie in a puddle for a few hours before setting out. This puddle may be made by mixing any rich surface soil with water enough to form a thick but running mass. A mixture of one-fourth to one-half cow dung is excellent. See directions for setting out fruit trees in the Agriculturist for March. We append the following directions for planting, &c., from Mr. Lawton's circular:

Planting.—If put out in a dry season, throw into the place assigned to each plant about a gallon of water, and allow it to settle away; then regulate the earth for its reception, and put in the roots about three inches deep; a proper humidity of the soil will thus be preserved for a long time. Watering upon the surface hardens the soil, impedes the healthful influence of the air and dew, and often proves fatal to the plant.

Distance.—Against a wall or garden fence, plant them five feet apart, or where they can be approached on either side to gather the fruit, only four. For field cultivation, allow at least ten feet between the rows, (all of which space will be required the third summer,) for the convenience of gathering the fruit, when the plant has attained its full size and strength. Any gardener will know how to occupy the superflous ground until required for the proper cultivation of the plant.

First Year.—In forking up or weeding the ground, be careful not to injure the roots, so as to interfere with the growth of the new shoots, as they constitute the bearing wood (indeed the plant itself) for the following year, and if they are destroyed the plant is lost.

Second Year.—The plants will be firmly rooted, but of medium size only. Before the buds put forth in the spring, reduce the length of the leading shoots about one quarter, and shorten also the laterals, according to their length, and they will produce a moderate crop of good fruit without further care, besides furnishing strong vigorous canes for the ensuing season.

Third Year.—The plants will now be in full bearing, and must be pruned and managed with due regard to their extraordinary size, productiveness and increase. All the old wood, having decayed during the winter, should be removed early in the spring after selecting three or four of the best new shoots in each hill for bearing. New plantations may be made with the other canes, or if not required for that purpose, they must be cut away close to the surface, and all the straggling shoots between the rows eradicated.

Pruning the Third Year.—Many of the principal shoots will now be from six to twelve feet high, and they may be cut off just below the bend (near the top), or reduced about one quarter of their length, and in shortening the laterals the cultivator will have acquired a sufficient knowledge of the plant to exercise a proper judgment; indeed, the pruning and management of the plant may no doubt in some localities be varied to advantage.

Props.—If the cultivator shall desire to support the plants, a cheap and convenient way is, to put posts at the extremity of the rows, and extend from them a single wire, to be elevated about four feet, and supported at proper intervals by stakes driven in the ground; to this the canes can be readily attached.

AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

This association which is doing much to advance the fruit-growing interests of our country, have issued their programme for the coming season. The Sixth Session, or Anual gathering, will be held at Corinthian Hall, Rochester, N. Y., commencing Wednesday, September 24, at 10 o'clock A. M., and continuing several days. The exercises will consist of reports from committees, and local associations; discussion and revision of the Society's Catologue of Fruits; value of fruits for general and local cultivation &c. Circulars giving full information can be obtained by addressing either of the following officers:

President—Marshall P. Wilder, Boston, Mass.; Secretary—H.W. S. Cleveland, Boston, Mass.; Treasurer—Thomas P. James, Philadelphia, Pa. Further information in regard to thespecific arrangements of the convention, will be announced in due time.—Ed.

BEAUTY ON EARTH.

"*There is beauty enough on earth to make a home for angels.*"

There is a strange proclivity in man to misapply or neglect altogether, what was intended by the Creator of man for his comfort and profit. Those whom He has crowned with uncommon gifts of mind are prone to abuse the trust by perverting it to base uses, or to dim its lustre by indifference or excess. Those whom He has adorned with peculiar charms of person are too apt to employ those charms for unholy purposes. Those whom He has gifted with the hallowed influences of poetry, who have the power to entrance their fellows with a single sweep of the lyre, too often tune the Bacchanal note, and write for the hall of revelry, rather than in praise of the King. Witness the case of Isabella of Spain, of Byron, and tell us if these things are not so.

"How use doth breed a habit in a man!" The Queen who staggers under a load of jewels soon learns to despise the brilliant things and counts them as dross. The florist soon casts off the spell which his gorgeous array of blossoms first exerted, and regards them as mere matters of merchandise. The naturalist soon loses his admiration for charms and wonders of the natural universe, in wild speculation and scientific research. And man, walking in the light of God's material smile, surrounded by the loveliness that God has prepared, and partaking of the bounties that God has dispensed, soon becomes indifferent to them all.

Possession is wont to beget neglect, because we may enjoy the enchanting beauties of nature without money, without molestation, it comes that they pall upon us and render us restless and dissatisfied. Everything in nature is so much a matter of course that we sigh for something novel, something superior, something more gorgeous and absorbing. And yet neglect it as we will, "There is beauty enough on earth to make a home for the angels."

THE BOBOLINK.

A long time since we met with the following beautiful passage in Washington Irving's last Book entitled "Wolfert's Roost and Other Papers, and put it in that corner of 'Our Drawer,' marked 'for May.' If it gives others as much pleasure in the perusal as it has afforded us, the space will be well occupied. After referring to several Spring Birds the Author says:"

The happiest bird of our spring, however, and one that rivals the European lark, in my estimation, is the Boblincon, or Bobolink, as he is commonly called. He arrives at that choice portion of our year, which, in this latitude, answers the first of May, so often given by the poets. With us, it begins about the middle of May, and lasts until nearly the middle of June. Earlier than this, winter is apt to return on its traces, and to blight the opening beauties of the year; and later than this, begin the parching, and panting, and dissolving heats of summer. But in this genial interval, nature is in all her freshness and fragrance; "the rains are over and gone, the flowers appear upon the earth, the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in the land." The trees are now in their fullest foliage and brightest verdure, the woods are gay with the clustered flowers of the laurel; the air is perfumed by the sweet-brier and the wild rose; the meadows are enameled with clover blossoms; while the young apple, the peach, and the plum, begin to swell, and the cherry to glow, among the green leaves.

This is the chosen season of revelry of the Bobolink. He comes amidst the pomp and fragrance of the season; his life seems all sensibility and enjoyment, all song and sunshine. He is to be found in the soft bosoms of the freshet and sweetest meadows; and is most in song when the clover is in blossom. He perches on the topmost twig of a tree, or on some long flaunting weed, and as he rises and sinks with the breeze, pours forth a succession of rich tinkling notes; crowding one upon another, like the out pouring melody of the sky-lark, and possessing the same rapturous character. Sometimes he pitches from the summit of a tree, begins his song as soon as he gets upon the wing, and flutters tremulously down to the earth, as if overcome with ecstasy at his own music. Sometimes he is in pursuit of his paramour; always in full song, as if he would win her by his melody; and always with the same appearance of intoxication and delight.

Of all the birds of our groves and meadows, the bobolink was the envy of my boyhood. He crossed my path in the sweetest weather, and the sweetest season of the year, when all nature called to the fields, and the rural feeling throbbed in every bosom; but when I, luckless urchin, was doomed to be mewed up, during the live-long day, in that purgatory of boyhood, a school-room. It seemed as if the little varlet mocked at me, as he flew by in full song, and sought to taunt me with his happier lot. Oh, how I envied him! No lessons, no task, no hateful school; nothing but holiday, frolic, green fields, and fine weather. Had I been then more versed in poetry, I might have addressed him in the words of Logan to the cuckoo:

Sweet bird! thy bower is ever green,
  Thy sky is ever clear;
Thou hast no sorrow in thy note,
  No winter in thy year.

Oh! could I fly, I'd fly with thee;
  We'd make, on joyful wing,
Our annual visit round the globe,
  Companions of the spring!

Further observation and experience have given me a different idea of this little feathered voluptuary, which I will impart, for the benefit of my school-boy readers, who may regard him with the same unqualified envy and admiration which I once indulged. I have shown him only as I saw him at first, in what I may call the poetical part of his career, when he in a manner devoted himself to elegant pursuits and enjoyments, and was a bird of music, and song, and taste, and sensibility, and refinement. While this lasted, he was sacred from injury; the very schoolboy would not fling a stone at him, and the merest rustic would pause to listen to his strain. But mark the difference. As the year advances, as the clover blossoms disappear, and the spring fades into summer, he gradually gives up his elegant tastes and habits; doffs his poetical suit of black, assumes a russet dusty garb, and sinks to the gross enjoyments of common vulgar birds. His notes no longer vibrate on the ear; he is stuffing himself with the seeds of the tall weeds on which he lately swung and chanted so melodiously. He has become a "bon vivant," a "gourmand;" with him now there is nothing like the "joys of the table." In a little while he grows tired of plain homely fare, and is off on a gastronomical tour in quest of foreign luxuries. We next hear of him with myriads of his kind, banqueting among the reeds of the Delaware; and grown corpulent with good feeding. He has changed his name in traveling. Boblincon no more—he is the *Reed-bird* now, the much sought for tit-bit of Pennsylvania epicures; the rival in unlucky fame of the ortolan! Wherever he goes, pop! pop! pop! every rusty firelock in the country is blazing away. He sees his companions falling by thousands around him.

Does he take warning, and reform? Alas, not he! Incorrigible epicure! again he wings his flight. The rice-swamps of the South invite him. He gorges himself among them almost to bursting; he can scarcely fly for corpulency. He has once more changed his name, and is now the famous *Rice-bird* of the Carolinas.

Last stage of his career; behold him spitted, with dozens of his corpulent companions, and served up, a vaunted dish, on the table of some Southern gastronome.

Such is the story of the Bobolink; once spiritual, musical, admired, the joy of the meadows, and the favorite bird of spring; finally, a gross little sensualist, who expiates his sensuality in the larder.

"AN AX TO GRIND."

The practical reader, in quest of some improvement upon the old-fashioned back-breaking method of grinding axes, (our's aches at just thinking of it,) may pass on to the next article—this one is for the boys who have not heard, perhaps, the origin of the popular saying—"He has an ax to grind." The great Benjamin Franklin was once only "little Benny," and his narrative of an imposition practised upon him at that period gave rise to the above saying, now so common and so expressive. His narrative runs thus:

"When I was a little boy, I remember one cold winter's morning, I was accosted by a smiling man, with an ax on his shoulder: 'My pretty boy,' said he, 'has your father a *grindstone!*' 'Yes, sir,' said I. 'You are a fine little fellow,' said he, 'will you let me grind my ax on it?' Pleased with his compliment of fine little fellow, 'O yes, sir,' I answered, 'it is down in the shop.' 'And will you, my man,' said he, patting me on the head, 'get a little hot water?' How could I refuse? I ran, and soon brought a kettle-full. 'How old are you, and what's your name?' continued he, without waiting for a reply, 'I am sure you are one of the finest fellows that I have ever seen; will you just turn a minute for me?' Tickled with the flattery, like a fool, I went to work, and bitterly did I rue the day. It was a new ax; and I toiled and tugged till I was almost tired to death. The school bell rang, and I could not get away; my hands were blistered, and it was not half ground. At length, however, the ax was sharpened, and the man turned to me with, 'Now, you little rascal, you've played the truant: scud for school, or you'll rue it.' Alas! thought I, it was hard enough to turn a grindstone this cold day, but now to be called a little rascal, was too much. It sank deep into my mind, and I've often thought of it since. When I see a merchant over-polite to his customers, begging them to take a little brandy, and throwing his goods on the counter, thinks I, 'That man has an ax to grind.' When I see a man flattering the people—making great professions of attachment to liberty—who, in private life, is a tyrant, methinks, 'Look out, good people, that fellow would set you turning grindstones.' When I see a man hoisted into office by party spirit, without a single qualification to render him respectable or useful, 'Alas! methinks, deluded people, you are doomed for a season to turn the grindstone for a booby.'"

HONOR AMONG BOYS.

If, as it is said, there is "honor among thieves," why should this noble quality be lacking in so many little boys?

"Boys will be boys," said one in reply to a remark of mine on this subject. This I know, and do not desire to see "old heads upon young shoulders." What I want is to beg boys to be governed by honor, and honesty, in their dealings with one another.

"Why don't you lend your skates and sled to the other boys when you are not using them?" I have asked, and been answered, "Because boys think nothing of breaking one another's things, and sometimes consider it smart, and then laugh at you for being so green as to lend them."

"But don't they pay the damages?"

Now was my turn to be laughed at for the absurdity of my question. "Pay damages! never!" This grated harshly upon a mother's ears, and I'll tell you why. Because in the first place I know how much a boy thinks of his first sled, first skates, and first pocket-knife. Many rich men who live in free-stone palaces in New-York will confess that they never had a greater prize than their first sled, with its bright paint and well-ironed runners, and that the possession of skates gave them many sleepless hours of delight. Now when boys know so well how much they prize their own things, is it not very much stealing, to carelessly injure another boy's property and make no effort to repair the loss?

"But how can a boy pay, when he has got no money?" I hear one of my readers say, perhaps impatiently.

He can go home and tell his father what he has done, and beg him to give him the means of repairing his loss. If his father sees fit to refuse his request, he can save his pennies till he has enough money of his own; or he can select from among his playthings something worth enough to pay for the harm he he has done, even if he has to give away a very precious toy. If he is too poor for this and has a little Yankee contrivance, perhaps he can mend the injured article and make it as good as new. If this can not be done, he can go to his playmate, and say he is verry sorry for the accident, and that he is not able to repay the damages, and then show his sorrow by improving the first chance to do his injured friend a favor. He will not have to wait long for an opportunity to show kindness which is better than money.

This is as much a young boy's duty as it will be when he is a few years older, and accidentally injures a borrowed horse and carriage, to repay the owner for his loss. A boy who will break another's knife, lose his ball, drop his new book in the mud, or break his sled, and then laugh at his playmate's distress, or even refuse to pay him n some way for his loss, will be very likely to make a forger, defaulter, burglar, or perhaps something worse.

A mean unfeeling boy is a sad hopeless sight. Like a crooked, dwarfed, young tree, nothing grand or noble can be made of it. Age will only make it more ugly and despised.

It is too much the fashion among boys to scorn gentle loving manners, or leave their sisters to learn such ways, while they try to be what they call *men*. A boy who wishes to be a *true man*, "the noblest work of God," must begin while he is young to be honorable, and "do as he would be done by," for he will be the same person when he grows up that he is now, only stronger, larger, in mind and body, and better able to do good or evil. Let us by all means have "HONOR AMONG BOYS."—M. E. W., in Independent.

TOE CORNS.

R. C., of South Carolina, in writing to renew his subscription, appends to his letter the following reference to the article on CORNS published in the March number:

**"I have had much experience with corns, having suffered from them all my life. Mine grow between my toes, and might be called moist corns. When they give me much pain, a small piece of leaf-tobacco, moistened, and put between the toes and over the corn, has never failed to give me relief; and, generally, a small piece of rag of any kind, or a little cotton, applied in the same way, fresh every day, keeps the corn from giving pain,—and were it persevered in, might ultimately cure them, if they can be cured—which, however, I doubt very much. I have tried burning in every way, without any other result than much pain, at the time; buckskin is not much better, and oil proved almost as severe as caustic, and with less benefit, if possible. Thick shoes or boots increased the pain by increasing the heat and moisture of the foot—the original cause of the disease with me.

Yours, respectfully, R. C.

NEW BEAUFORT, S. C. April 7.

Mr. "Green Yankee's" letter on dead lambs came after one on the same subject was in type. He takes about a similar view of the matter to that expressed by "A Young Farmer," on page 180.—ED.

AN APOLOGY—IF NEEDED.—Of some dozen intelligent *working* men, who are pledged to assist in furnishing editorial matter for the Agriculturist, from time to time, the greater part of them have been so incessantly occupied with Spring work, which "came all in a heap" this year, that they have not had a moment's time, night or day, to write down their experience. This has thrown us very much upon our own resources, but we trust even this number will not suffer by comparison with any other in point of practical instruction.

The old friends of the Agriculturist will, no doubt, be pleased to learn that it is "going ahead." *We* have never seen such a flocking in of new subscribers as have come by every mail, for a month past.

A large number of letters are still unanswered, Will the writers please have a little patience, and we will soon bring up arrears, as we have more business aid engaged from this date onward.

THE PORK TRADE OF THE WEST.

The Cincinnati Price Current gives "a full and final statement" of the pork-packing business in the West, the present season. The total for each State is set down as follows:

	1854-5.	1855-6.
Ohio	600,964	661,197
Illinois	369,862	412,307
Tennessee	14,200	62,400
Missouri	130,501	189,144
Kentucky	341,299	420,834
Indiana	501,325	479,001
Iowa	93,291	163,594
Wisconsin	37,500	42,500
Grand total	2,088,042	2,430,887
		2,088,042
Increase this season		342,845

The increase in weight is estimated at 11 per cent., equal to 229,453 hogs, which, added to the increase in numbers, makes a total increase of 572,298.

The Price Current has obtained from the different points the exact amounts transported over each railway leading East, from the 1st of September to the 1st of February, for the seasons of 1854–5 and 1855–6; and presents these returns as follows:

	1854-5.	1855-6.
Great Western (Canada) Railway, from Detroit	37,292	137,325
New-York and Erie Railway, from Dunkirk	119,427	109,710
Central Pennsylvania Railway, from Pittsburg	32,331	40,058
Baltimore and Ohio Railway, from Wheeling and Moundsville	57,883	64,717
Received by railway and lake at Buffalo	89,112	139,402
Total	336,745	491,212
		336,745
Increase this season		154,467

CANVAS BAGS FOR HAMS.—The hams should be well dried and smoked. If they are to be put up for family use, bags made of heavy cotton cloth, the shape of the ham, but something larger, with a drawing string at the large end, are the most convenient, and may be used several years if taken care of. Cover the hams neatly with brown paper and drop them into the bag—draw up the end and hang them up in a cool, airy house.

Or they may be covered with the paper as directed and the cloth cut to suit the size and form of the hams and then sewed firmly around them; then prepare a box or large tub of whitewash, made of common lime, about the consistency of cream, and dip the hams into this; then hang them up and dry them. If a neater article is required for market, dip them into a wash made of whiting, to which should be added sufficient thin paste to set the whiting; to this add chrome yellow to color to suit the fancy.—Louisville Journal.

What is it that causes a cold, cures a cold, and pays the doctor? *A draft.*

TO EXTRACT GREASE FROM CLOTH.—The following is suggested: To sixteen ounces of rectified spirits of wine add ten grains of carbonate of potash, (pure,) half an ounce of essential oil of Bergamot, and one ounce of sulphuric ether; mix and keep in a glass-stoppered bottle. Apply with a piece of sponge, soaking the cloth thoroughly when the grease is not recent. The mixture emits a peculiarly fragrant odor. and being a fluid soap, chemically composed, will be found a perfect solvent of oily matter.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &c.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, April 28, 1856.

A reference to the figures below, summing up the transactions in Breadstuffs, and then to the table of comparative prices, will show the condition of the markets. The announcement of Peace in Europe, and the prospective opening of the Eastern Grain Ports, have greatly depressed the prices of Grain here. Further investigations show a large amount of Wheat and Flour at the West than many had anticipated—though not larger, perhaps, than we estimated them to be last Autumn. We spent several weeks —day and night—last October and November, in an earnest effort to ascertain the real condition of the Wheat and Corn crop, and we predicted *very low* prices on the opening of navigation this Spring, and advised farmers to sell *then*. We are very sorry, on the producers' account, that our predictions are proving true. *We* see no prospect of an improvement during the Summer, We advise to plant all the corn possible this month; let there be *quantity* enough to make up for any deficiency in price. We have neither time nor inclination to give farther speculation upon prospective prices, at this time.

We find upon our note-book, records of sales of Breadstuffs for 27 business days, ending to-day: of Flour, 281,600 barrels; of Wheat, 191,000 bushels; of Corn, 1,147,000 bushels; of Rye, 213,600 bushels; and of Barley, 44,200 bushels. Our last report, (March 28) for 25 business days gave of Flour, 257,700 barrels; of Wheat, 116,000 bushels; of Corn, 803,300 bushels; of Rye, 126,500 bushels; and of Barley, 16,200 bus.

The following figures show the present price of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

		March 29.	April 29.
Flour—Superfine No. 2			$4 75@ 5 50
Ordinary State		$6 87@ 7 00	5 50@ 5 75
Mixed Western		6 75@ 7 00	5 25@ 6 00
Favorite and Ex. State		7 12@ 7 50	5 75@ 6 25
Extra Genesee		8 50@10 50	6 50@ 9 00
Wheat—Canada White		1 75@ 2 00	1 70@ 1 90
Southern White		1 75@ 2 00	1 60@ 1 80
Southern Red		1 62@ 1 75	1 50@ 1 65
Western Red		1 37@ 1 62	1 31@ 1 30
Corn—Western Mixed		68@ 70	58@ 60
New Yellow and White		65@ 70	60@ 62
Rye		1 13@ 1 14	85@ 92
Barley		1 20@ 1 30	1 10@ 1 25
Oats—Western, &c		31@ 45	30@ 44
Cotton—Middling		10¼@ 10½	11¼@ 11¾
Rice	℔100 lbs	4 00@ 4 75	3 50@ 4 23
Pork—Mess	℔ bbl.	16 00@16 25	18 00@18 50
Dressed Hogs	℔ lb.	7¾@ 9	7@ 7¾
Lard, in bbls	℔ lb.	10@ 10½	9¾@ 10¼
Butter—Western	℔ lb.	16@ 21	11@ 17
State	℔ lb.	21@ 28	16@ 22
Potatoes—Carters	℔ bbl.	1 75@ 2 25	1 62@ 2 00
Mercers	℔ bbl.	1 50@ 1 75	1 12@ 2 62
Onions—Reds	℔ bbl.	1 25@ 1 50	1 25@ 1 50
White	℔ bbl.	2 00@ 2 25	2 00@ 2 50
Apples	℔ bbl.	1 50@ 2 50	1 25@ 2 62

Beef cattle were in good supply and quality at the first three market days of the month; last Wednesday a short supply and an advance of 1c.a1½ per lb., the selling prices being for Premium cattle 12½c.a14c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First qualityı 11½c.a12c.; Medium quality, 10c.a11½c.; Poor quality, 9c.a10c.; Poorest quality 8c. a9c.; General selling prices, 10½c.a11½c. Average of all sales, about 11c.a11¼c.

THE WEATHER.—The weather, during April, has been strictly according to the most approved almanac, with an exception or two. We have had no "snow squalls" hereabouts. The whole month has been mild and pleasant, the thermometer ranging most of the time from 40° or 45° to 60°, with very few cold nights. April showers and sunshine have alternated in rapid succession, since the 15th inst.—before that time, though it often sprinkled, not enough rain fell to replenish the long-time-dry cisterns. On Saturday, 12th, a tornado swept over Philadelphia, doing immense damage to buildings. We had a heavy blow, accompanied with a long, heavy rain here on Sunday and Monday, the 20th and 21st, which did some serious damage to buildings, &c. The rain suspended operations in the field for a time, and and filled the swamps and higher ground previously dry. It is now quite warm, with an occasional shower.

THE ADVERTISING COLUMNS are set apart for business men to tell their own story about their wares, for which they each pay a stipulated consideration, according to the amount of space occupied. We assume no responsibility for what is therein said, though we reserve the right to limit the space or to reject any advertisement we may not choose to admit.

☞ We have no connection, directly or indirectly, with any other business than publishing this paper. Our location in an agricultural street, and in rooms *rented* for our own convenience in an agricultural establishment, involves no connection whatever, either with the business of the street, or that carried on in other parts of the buildings we occupy. We wish it distinctly understood that we are *independent* of all subsidiary influences. We have the AGRICULTURIST to sell, and *nothing else*, and shall endeavor to make our paper worthy of being bought.

The above remarks have been called for by sundry insinuations that have come to our hearing. We hope not to be under the necessity of referrrng to this matter again.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

By the column or half column, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

TO LANDOWNERS.—A situation as Overseer or Farm Manager, is desired by a practical English farmer, of experience in this country; (is married, but without encumbrances;) has first class references, and is competent to manage a farm of large size. Address ROBERT GADD, at Mr. Lowry's, 912 Broadway, New-York City.
—112n58

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasonable price. R. L. ALLEN, 189 Water-st.

MAY FOR EVERGREENS.

When Deciduous Trees have commenced growing, and can no longer be moved, Evergreens can be moved safely.

Norway Spruce and White Pine for Trees, and Rhododendrons for Shrubs, will make the most dreary place look bright in the Winter. Roses and Flowering Plants, in pots, can now be planted in clumps upon the lawn. These, with all the varieties of Evergreens, can be obtained of

—112n6nc PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York.

CHOICE SEED POTATOES:

PRINCE ALBERT—Recently imported, hardy, prolific and very superior quality.
EXCELSIOR.
EARLY JUNE.
NUTMEG.
KIDNEY.
RACE HORSE.
DIKEMAN.

All the foregoing are early choice varieties.
April 25, 1856. R. L ALLEN, 189 Water-st. N. Y.

GARDEN, FIELD and FLOWER SEEDS.—A large supply of the most desirable varieties of Garden Seeds; a choice and good supply of Flower Seeds; and Grass Seeds of all kinds. Field Seeds—Wheat, Oats, Corn, Barley, &c.

We take great care to have all our seeds fresh and best of their kinds, and offer them for sale at wholesale or retail on most favorable terms.
R. L. ALLEN.
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York, offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf PEAR, CHERRIES, PEACHES, PLUMS, and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—116

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

PRICES FOR SPRING AND AUTUMN, 1856.

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING. A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city.
WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
111—tfn41 or at New-Rochelle, N Y

NEW-ROCHELLE OR LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—The subscribers having devoted much attention to the cultivation of this new species of Blackberry for a number of years, have now the largest area of ground in cultivation of any in the country. Their Nursery, while in bearing, has been visited by thousands of persons from all parts of the States, and by all pronounced to be the "ne plus ultra."

Orders will be filled from our Grounds with great pleasure, at the following prices: One half-dozen, $2 50; One dozen, $5 00 Fifty, $12 50, and One Hundred, $25.
GEO. SEYMOUR & CO.
South-Norwalk, Conn., Jan. 20, 1850. 109—112n2

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—116n1212N14 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

RHUBARB AND ASPARAGUS ROOTS for sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-st.

A GOOD TEMPERANCE HOUSE IN New-York is a great desideratum, especially one kept on
THE EUROPEAN PLAN,
Where travelers and visitors can find
NEAT, QUIET ROOMS, WITH GOOD BEDS,
at moderate prices; and get their
MEALS WHENEVER OR WHEREVER DESIRED.
Such a HOTEL is
SAVERY'S TEMPERANCE HOUSE,
(On the European plan,)
at 14 Beekman-st., corner of Nassau, (In the Daily Times Block, near the Park and City Hall.)

This House contains 150 good rooms, all supplied with the best quality of hair mattrass beds, kept neat and clean. Prices 35 to 50 cents per night, including day occupancy; or, $2 to $3 per week. Extra large rooms, $4 to $5 per week.

In the spacious Dining Rooms, gentlemen, with or without their ladies, can, at all hours, (from 6½ A. M. to 8 P. M.) obtain meals or lunches, paying only for what they may order. The bill of fare is made out in the Federal Currenry, thus: Tea or Coffee, 3 cents per cup; Pies, Puddings, &c., 5 cents per plate, (not 6¼ cents;) Meats, with accompaniaments, 10 cents, 15 cents, and 20 cents per plate, (not 12½ cents, 18¾ cents, 25 cents.)

A temperance man, the editor of a leading journal of this city, says;

"* * SAVERY is, and always has been, a consistent temperance man, and he keeps his fine Hotel upon upright principles. * * * We are glad to inform our friends everywhere, that there is a GOOD, QUIET Home for them while stopping for a day or longer in this city, one every way worthy of their patronage, and where they will find fair accommodations on moderate terms. * * *" 112—tfn60

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

AGRICULTURAL SEEDS.—The subscribers offer, of the growth of the past year, and of the finest qualities, their large stock of

Early Yellow Stone Turnip,	at	75 cents	per lb.
Yellow Aberdeen	do.	75	do.
Skirving's improved Ruta Baga	do.,	50 cents	per lb.
Early White Stone	do.	75	do.
Large White Norfolk	do.	50	do.
Largo White Globe	do.	50	do.

With twenty other varieties of Turnips, for which see priced catalogue.

ALSO,

Long Orange Carrot, clean seed.		$1	per lb.
White field do.	do.	75c.	do.
Early Short Horn do.	do.	$1	do.
Long Red Mangel Wurtzel Beet,		50 cents	per lb.
White Silesia Sugar	do.	50c.	do.
Round Leaved Spinach,		75 cents	per lb.
New Flanders	do.	$1	do.
Prickly or Winter	do.	75c.	do.

And at reduced rates in quantities, and a full assortment of Vegetable, Flower and Field Seeds, warranted fresh, pure and true.

Lucerne and White Dutch Clover, Sainfoin, English and Italian Ray Grasses, Sweet-scented Vernal Grass. The Fescues and other varieties of foreign Grasses, and the most approved mixtures of English, French, and domestic Grasses for lawn purposes.

Norway Spruce, and other Evergreen Seeds. Osage Orange and Honey Locust, for hedges; Yellow Timber Locust: improved King Philip Corn; Japan Peas, &c. &c.

Priced catalogues mailed to applicants inclosing a three cent stamp, and orders by mail promptly responded to.
J. M. THORBURN & CO., 15 John-st., New-York.

DIOSCORREA BATATAS—New Chinese Potato or Yam, at $3 per dozen. Description and direction for culture furnished to applicants. —112n52

ISABELLA AND CATAWBA GRAPE VINES, of proper age for forming Vineyards, cultivated from, and containing all the good qualities which the most improved cultivation for over fifteen years has conferred on the Croton Point Vineyards, are offered to the public. Those who may purchase will receive such instructions for four years, as will enable them to cultivate the Grape with entire success provided their locality is not too far north.

All communications addressed to R. T. UNDERHILL, M. D., New-York, or Croton Point, Westchester County, N. Y., will receive attention.

The additional experience of three past seasons gives him full assurance that, by improved cultivation, pruning, &c., a crop of good fruit can be obtained every year, in most of the Northern, all of the Middle, Western and Southern States.

N. B.—To those who take sufficient to plant six acres, as he directs, he will, when they commence bearing, furnish the owner with one of his Vinedressers, whom he has instructed in his mode of cultivation, and he will do all the labor of the vineyard, and insure the most perfect success. The only charge, a reasonable compensation for the labor.

Also, APPLE-QUINCE TREES, (which are sometimes called the Orange Quince,) for sale as above.
109—112 R. T. U.

ARBOR VITÆ HEDGE PLANTS.—CHAPMAN JACKSON & CO., No. 55 William-st., N. Y., offer for sale a large quantity of AMERICAN ARBOR VITÆ, in fine condition, at the following prices: From 1 to 2 feet, $3 per hundred; 2 to 3 feet, $5 per hundred; 3 to 4 feet, $10 per hundred. Any quantity furnished to order. —112n54

WM. R. PRINCE & CO., FLUSHING, N. Y., offer for sale the CHINESE POTATO, Imperial Rice-white variety; tubers, in cans, at $5 and $10; or growing vigorously, ten inches high, in pots, at $6 for 6, and $12 per dozen, treatise on culture therewith; Licorice, for field culture, cheap in quantity; Earth Almonds, Chinese Sugar Cane Seeds, succeeds wherever Broom Corn does; Madder, Yellow and Honey Locust, Osage Orange, Evergreen and other Tree Seeds. An unrivaled collection of Trees and Plants of every kind, Sweet Almonds, Figs, Pomegranates, Lawton's and Imperial Blackberries, finest Raspberries, Gooseberries and Currants, premium Strawherries, surpassing all others; Grapes and Rhubarb, in quantity; Osier Scions, of finest kinds; 500,000 Evergreens, including Norway Spruce, for nurseries, at low rates. Priced catalogues for applicants. —112n55

WM. R. PRINCE & CO. announce that every applicant for the Chinese Potato *has been replied to* by stating *the price for tubers*, and that in no case have any roots been obtained from Europe, nor have any been sold in this country, except by cutting them into small pieces or eyes. We will pay $25 each for 100 roots. Any persons receiving tubers from us may return them if not satisfied. —112n56

AMERICAN INSTITUTE—FARMERS' CLUB.—WM R. PRINCE having made a most ample report on the DIOSCOREA BATATAS to this Institution, on the 18th March, refuting and annihilating the false statements which *ignorance, malice and stupidity* have palmed upon the public, will transmit his report to applicants. He also presented to the Farmers' Club, on April 8th, fine roots, firm and excellent, dug that day, which have withstood the rigor of the Winter, the severest ever known. —112n57

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water st., New-York.

$1000 PREMIUM

FOR BEST MOWING MACHINE, 1856.

THE Trustees of the "Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture" hereby give notice that the premium of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS for the best Mowing Machine, is now open to all competitors.

To entitle any one to compete for the Premium, he must enter the Mowing Machine, with full particulars of its principles of construction, weight, and selling price, with the subscriber, on or before the first day of JUNE, 1856.

Every competitor will be required, at his own cost, to exhibit to and submit a trial of his Machine to the Trustees, upon not less than five acres of grass land.

The Trustees likewise reserve the right of ordering further trials upon land of their selection, if they think it expedient or necessary to do so.

No competitor will be allowed to enter more than one Machine of a similar principle of construction, and he must have the legal right to make, sell and exhibit the same and those of a similar construction, for use within the State of Massachusetts.

The Trustees reserve the right of withholding the award of the Premium and continuing it for another year, if no Machine is exhibited which in their opinion, does not by its labor and expense-saving properties over the common method of scythe mowing, recommend itself for general introduction and use.

Any further information will be given to persons applying for the same, by addressing the subscriber.

THOMAS MOTLEY, Jr.,
March 15.—111—113n39 Jamaica Plain, Mass.

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM. or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

GRENOBLE HOSE.—A superior Hose, manufactured of the finest Hemp—a cheap and excellent substitute for Leather and Gutta Percha. It is especially recommended to Planters, Nurserymen, Fire Companies, Steamboats, Manufactories, Dwellings, &c. It costs less than half the price of leather, is lighter, stands as much pressure, is as durable, and is not subjected for its preservation to the expense of oiling or greasing, neither is it injured by frost.

For sale, and orders for importation received in sizes from 1 to 7 inches in diameter, by CHARLES LENZMANN, 54 Cedar-st., New-York, where certificates of its superior qualities can be examined, from Alfred Carson Esq., Chief Engineer of the New-York Fire Department; from James McFarlan, Esq., Chief Engineer of the Union Ferry Co., and also from official authorities of some of the large cities of Europe. —112n59

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS;
FIELD and GARDEN SEEDS;
No. 1 PERUVIAN GUANO;
SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME;
CHARCOAL DUST; POUDRETTE: PLASTER for land purposes; BONE, fine and coarse, &c.

MAGIC CORN AND COB MILL.—This mill has improvements over all other corn mills, and requires less power. For sale at the North River Agricultural Warehouse.

GRIFFING, BROTHER & CO.,
110—112n22 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

SEED POTATOES.—Several best varieties.
Black and White Seed Oats.
Spring Wheat.
Spring Rye.
Seed Barley.
Field Peas, Seed Corn, and a large assortment of fresh and reliable Garden seeds, for sale by

R. L. ALLEN 189 and 191 Water-st.

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz: Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—DRAINING and IRRIGATION in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines, wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission.

SHIPMAN & HAMMOND,
111—121n48 No. 63 Trinity Buildings. 111 Broadway, N. Y.

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers.

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

HARROWS; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, &c,

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

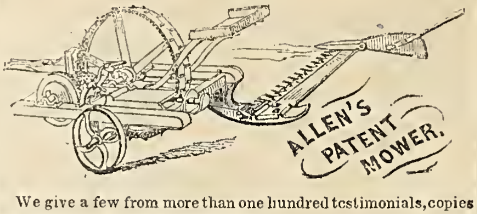
A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

ALLEN'S MOWER,

THE BEST IN THE UNITED STATES.

To be sure of a Machine you should order at once.



We give a few from more than one hundred testimonials, copies of which can be had on application.

R. L. ALLEN, N. Y.—I have used Allen's Mower for two seasons, and have cut 70 to 80 tons fodder each season. We have used it in light and heavy grass, over rough and level surface, in wet and dry. The machine has succeeded admirably. It has not cost me $2 in two years. It is the best and most perfect mower I ever saw work, being of easy draught, and requiring no more than ordinary walk of horses to do the work well, cutting the grass as low and more level than any hand-mowing. I can cut with ease 12 acres in a day; and, with two horses, weighing 2 100 pounds, (the two.) can follow it day after day. I should like to see any improvement that may come along; but if I could not get such another as Allen's, I would not part with it for $1,000—indeed, for any money. I have had numbers of farmers see my mower work, and they all admit it is the best they ever saw work. JOHN GILES.

Woodstock, Conn., Oct. 25, 1855.

R. L. ALLEN, Sir:—I do not think a better mowing machine can be made than your Allen's Improved. I cut 19 tons of hay off 8 acres with it, and I was only four hours cutting it. Much of the grass was badly lodged and tangled; indeed, I had no idea that a mowing machine would work in it at all. The grass was cut in first-rate style, and no clogging. I have cut, in all, 60 acres, without a cent cost for repairs. It is easy of draught to the horses, and they can be walked slow or quick. It is compact and durable, and easily managed. I saw it worked at Flushing, in June last, when four different patent mowers were worked beside it. I was certainly impartial in my desire to choose the best machine; and I chose yours, (Allens,) as none of them could compare with it in the qualities I have named.

Patchogue, L. I., Nov. 10, 1855. AUSTIN ROE.

R. L. ALLEN, N. Y., Sir:—I can highly recommend your Allen Mower. It is easy draught for a pair of horses. I have used it in very heavy and lodged grass; it cut without clogging, and better than could be done with a scythe. It is durable, compact, and easily managed. FROST HORTON,
Of the firm of Minor & Horton.

Peekskill, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1855.

ATKINS' AUTOMATON:

OR,

SELF-RAKING REAPER AND MOWER,

BEST MACHINE IN USE.

1 (the first) used in 1852.
40 used successfully in 1853.
300 in twenty different States in 1854.
1200 in all parts of the Union in 1855.
3000 building for the harvest of 1856.

THERE ARE SIX GOOD REASONS for this unparalleled increase and great popularity: 1st. It is strong and reliable, and easily managed. 2d. It saves the hard labor of Raking. 3d. It saves at least another hand in binding. 4th. It saves shattering by the careful handling in raking; besides, the straw being laid straight, it is well secured in the sheaf, and does not drop in the after handling, and the heads are not exposed in the stack, so that the GRAIN SAVING even exceeds the LABOR SAVING. 5th. It is a good Mower, being one of the best convertible machines in use. 6th. It has a knife that does not choke.

Its other excellencies, too numerous to mention here, are fairly given in the circulars. Its intrinsic worth is also attested by the award (mostly in only 3 years) of

OVER 70 FIRST PREMIUMS!

PRICE.—Reaper and Mower, $200—$75 on its receipt, $75 first September, and $50 first December. Price of Self-Raking Reaper only $175. Considerable saving in freight to those at a distance who order prior to 1st March; also liberal discount for advance payment.

To secure a Machine, order immediately. Though so little known the past season, and none ready for delivery till 1st May, yet not two-thirds the customers could be supplied. The reputation of the machine is now widely established, so that THREE THOUSAND will not as nearly supply the demand as twelve hundred did last year, and we shall also be selling four months earlier.

☞ Order early, if you would not be disappointed.

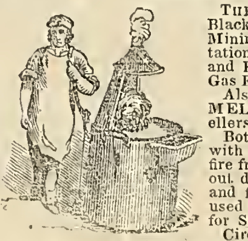
Pamphlets giving IMPARTIALLY the opinions of Farmers, together with orders, notes, &c., mailed to applicants, and prepaid.

☞ Write to us at Chicago, Ill.; Dayton, Ohio, or Baltimore, Md., whichever is nearest to you.

J. S. WRIGHT & CO.
"Prairie Farmer" Works, Chicago, Feb. 20, 1856, 110–113n27

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,

(QUEENS PATENT,)



THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—116n1190N8

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL

OVER TWO MILLION OF ACRES

OF

FARMING LANDS,

IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,

ON LONG CREDIT AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and include some of the richest and most fertile prairies in the State, interspersed here and there with magnificent groves of oak and other timber. The road extends from Chicago, on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the northwest extreme of the State, and as all the lands lie within fifteen miles on each side of this road, ready and cheap means are afforded by it for transporting the products of the lands to any of those points, and from thence to Eastern and Southern markets. Moreover, the rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages along the line, and the great increase in population by immigration, etc., afford a substantial and growing home demand for farm produce.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep, or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken sod, usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from $2 to $2 50 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern market, and to Cairo for the Southern. The larger yield on the cheap lands of Illinois over the high-priced lands in the Eastern and Middle States, is known to be much more than sufficient to pay the difference of transportation to the Eastern market.

Bituminous coal is mined at several points along the road, and is a cheap and desirable fuel. It can be delivered at several points along the road at $1 50 to $4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord.

Those who think of settling in Iowa or Minnesota, should bear in mind, that lands there of any value, along the water courses, and for many miles inland, have been disposed of—that for those located in the interior, there are no conveniences for transporting the produce to market, railroads not have been introduced there. That to send the produce of these lands one or two hundred miles by wagon to market, would cost much more than the expense of cultivating them; and hence, Government lands thus situated, at $1 25 per acre, are not so good investments as the land of this Company at the prices fixed.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road and others with which it connects, the operation of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from $5 to $25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made during the year 1856, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

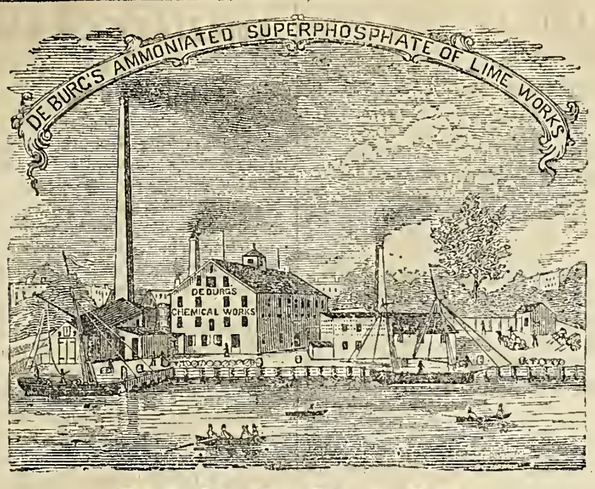
They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, $150 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

Special arrangements with dealers can be made to supply those purchasing the Company's lands with fencing materials, agricultural tools, and an outfit of provisions in any quantity, at the lowest wholesale prices.

It is believed that the price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter, in English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.
Office, up to the 1st of May, No. 52 Michigan Avenue, Chicago Ill. After that date, in the new stone Passenger Depot, foot South Water-street. 112—117n5


DE BURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DEBURGS
CHEMICAL WORKS

DE BURG'S
AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my prsposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to statethat many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feb. 1st(orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market, for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City.

CASH PRICE, $50 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

C. B. DEBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I..
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.
109—116n

SHEEP FOR SALE.
Two SHANGHAI RAMS and one
Thoroughbred SOUTHDOWN.
Apply to WILLIAM CAIRNS,
No. 30 Pine-st., New-York.
112—113n53

LARGE LOP-EARED RABBITS.—The above Rabbits for sale, in pairs or single. They are beautifully marked of various colors, and are pure and well bred.

Address, S. W. RODMAN, Boston, Mass.,
Or the Editor of this Paper.
1247n108—9

CHOICE POULTRY.—SEED POTATOES.—The subscriber has for sale ASIATIC, SEABRIGHT BANTAMS and GAME FOWLS, at very reasonable rates—all warranted PURE.

I can also furnish the superior CLINTON POTATOES at $1 per peck. All orders promptly attended to.

WM. FULMER,
Stewartsville, N. J.
109—112n6

SHORT HORN BULL FOR SALE.

SACHEM, (935) American Herd Book, vol. 2d, got by imported Wolviston, (1109) a Princess Tribe Bull, bred by Mr. Stephenson, of Durham, England. Sachem is three years old, past, and a very fine animal in all respects, and has proved himself a first-rate stock getter. A yearling bull and a few cows also for sale.

J. F SHEAFE,
New Hamburg, Dutchess Co., N. Y.
111—112n40

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE,
AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY,' and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,

C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.
1246n108—119N9

VALUABLE AND CHEAP PROPERTY
FOR SALE IN MORRISTOWN, N. J.

The subscriber offers his property for sale. The improvements are one new two-story House, with tin roof, containing seven rooms, beside garret and cellar the full size of the house.

There are nearly four acres of good clay ground, with a never-failing stream of water running through; located on the Washington Turnpike within three minutes walk of the Railroad depot. The garden is well stocked with Fruit Trees of the choicest varieties, particularly Pears. There is also a very valuable orchard of bearing Orange-Quince trees—nearly 100.

A rare opportunity for a cash purchaser. Title indisputable.
WM. DAY.
110tfn21

PERUVIAN GUANO—*At lowest market prices*, wholesale and retail—with Government weight and brand on each bag, for sale at the

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT AND SEED
Warehouse of R. L. ALLEN,
Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

ALLEN'S CELEBRATED MOWING MACHINE
CANNOT CLOG.

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept* 4, 1855.

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation. (the plants which abound in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address,

WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

N. B.—Plants will be furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs.
111—tfn42

A WORD TO FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN.—If you have butter, poultry, eggs, or any other articles of table use, which you will sell low for cash. please apply to the principal Express Agent in your neighborhood. Likely, we will put him in funds to buy of you if we can agree upon prices.

We are in want of half a tun of nice turkeys, chickens and geese, every week, at our Express Produce Store, No. 33 Broadway. A tun or two of first rate table butter, upon consignment, to sell to consumers would be very acceptable.

Commission for effecting sales, for cash, five per cent, and NO OTHER CHARGES WHATEVER.

A. L. STIMSON,
Agent for the Sale of Farmers' Produce, and the purchase of Goods ordered by Express, No. 33 Broadway, New-York.

REFERENCES—The American Express Company; Wells, Butterfield & Co.; the Adams Express Company; the National Express Company; Thompson & Co.'s Express; and Cheney, Fiske & Co.'s.
110tfn32

THE SCHOOL BELL,
A LARGE QUARTO WEEKLY PAPER,

designed for the amusement and instruction of youth, containing choice stories, poetry, games, puzzles, familiar science, and the news of the day, adapted to the wants and wishes of scholars in our public and private schools. Edited and published

BY STEPHEN ANGELL, Morrisania, N. Y.

TERMS.—Single copy, by mail, a year, 75 cents; five copies, $3; ten copies, $5, and at same rate for larger numbers.

We will send ten copies for ten weeks, to one address, for one dollar, and at the end of that time the subscription can be renewed.

Twenty copies, postage paid to any part of the United States, $12, and at the same rate for that number for a shorter period—thus, for $1, we send 20 copies free of postage for one month

Postage on the School Bell, throughout Westchester Co., free; within the State, 3 1-4 cents a quarter, paid in advance; and to any part of the United States, 6 1-2 cents.

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful sciences Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No. 11 Washington-st., Boston. Sample copies sent when ordered.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

BEST No. 1 Peruvian GUANO.

BONE DUST, ground and sawings.
Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For sale by

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

1000 TUNS OF DEBURG'S NO. 1 SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

We take pleasure in informing the Agricultural community that we are Sole Agents in the State of Pennsylvania for DEBURG'S Original and Genuine SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME, warranted of superiority, the cheapest manure in the world. Farmers and Dealers supplied at low prices.

EXTRA QUALITY LAND PLASTER.

5,000 barrels Extra Quality Land Plaster, selected for its fertilizing qualities.
10,000 bushels of same in bulk.
10,000 barrels best quality Ordinary Land Plaster, equal to the best usually sold, at the low price of 20 cts. per bushel, or $1 10 cents per barrel, with a deduction for large lots.
25,000 bushels of same in bulk.
1,000 barrels Calcined Plaster.
1,000 barrels Casting Plaster.
500 barrels Dentist Plaster.
5,000 barrels Hydraulic Cement.
1,000 barrels True Roman Cement.

PERUVIAN GUANO, POUDRETTE, MEXICAN GUANO, GROUND CHARCOAL, &c.

FRENCH, RICHARDS & CO.
At the Steam Plaster Mills, junction of York-avenue and Callowhill-st., Philadelphia, Pa.
110—12n31

TO FARMERS AND GARDENERS.—Your attention is called to the Manures manufactured by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY from the contents of the sinks and privies of New-York city, and free from offensive odor, called

POUDRETTE AND TAFEU.

Poudrette is composed of two-thirds night soil and one-third decomposed vegetable fiber.. Tafeu is composed of three-fourths night soil and one-fourth No. 1 Peruvian Guano.

These manures are cheaper and better adapted for raising Corn, Garden Vegetables and Grass, than any other in market. Can be put in contact with the seed without injury, and causes Corn and seeds to come up sooner, ripen two weeks earlier. and yield one-third more than other manures, and is a SURE PREVENTIVE of the Cut Worm.

Two bbls. Poudrette or 100 lbs Tafeu, will manure an acre of Corn in the hill. Tafeu 1¾ cents per pound. Poudrette $2 per barrel, or $1 50 for any quantity over seven barrels, delivered on board vessel or railroad free from any charge for package or cartage. A pamphlet, containing every information, sent, post-paid, to any one sending their address to

THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.
109—113n17

FISH GUANO.—The NARRAGANSETT MANUFACTUING COMPANY, of Providence, R. I., are now prepared to execute orders for their FISH GUANO. They have prepared their Guano after two methods. One by chemically treating, cooking and then drying and grinding the fish to a powder. This is put in bags and sold at $45 per tun. The other variety is prepared as above (with the exception of drying and grinding), and is then combined with an absorbant which is in itself a valuable fertilizer, and sold at two dollars per bbl. containing about 200 lbs. The compost is of great strength, and must be a very efficient fertilizer, as it is composed in great part of simple flesh and bones of fish.

Dr. Charles T. Jackson, of Boston, has made an analysis of the Powder, and says:

"It is similar to the Peruvian Guano in composition, with the exception that the ammonial matter is dried flesh, of fish, and not yet putrefied, so as to be ammoniacal. It will, however, produce ammonia by decomposition in the soil. One hundred grains of this manure, dried and finely pulverized, was submitted to analysis, with the following result:

ANALYSIS.

Ammonial matter (flesh or fish) - - - -	48.00
Phosphate of Lime - - - - - -	33 90
Carbonate of Lime - - - - - - -	7.60
Sulphate of Lime - - - - - - - -	6.40
Potash of Soda - - - - - - - - -	4.10
	100.09

Respectfully your obedient servant,
CHARLES T. JACKSON,
Assaser to the State of Massachusetts."

Dr. Jackson's opinion of our Guano is expressed in the following note:

Boston, March 9, 1855.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Esq.—Dear sir: In reply to your letter, I would state my entire confidence in the superiority of a properly prepared artificial guano, made from fishes, over that of the natural guano of birds, obtained from the coast of Peru.

It is obvious that more of the nitro geneous, or ammonia-producing substances, exist in fish prepared after your method, than are found in any guano, and hence the artificial preparation will go further in the fertilization of a soil.

The ammoniacal salts act chiefly in bringing the foliage into a healthy and luxuriant condition, and thus causes the plant to absorb more of the phosphate and other necessary salts and substances from the soil, and more carbonic acid from the air. The carbonate of ammonia, also, is a solvent for humus, and it quickly saturates any injurious acid salts that may exist in the soil, and forms from some of them valuable fertilizers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. T. JACKSON, M. D., Statate Assayer, &c.

This manure is offered to agriculturists with the assurance of its becoming one of the most popular to be obtained. The Company are ready to establish agencies at such places as are desirable for the convenience of farmers. As the supply for the season is rather limited, the Company would esteem it a favor to have orders forwarded early to enable them to lay down at their agencies the requisite quantities in proper time for use. Orders may be addressed to to the Company at Providence, or to R. L. Allen, New-York; R. H. Pease, Albany; Geo. Buck, Hartford.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Agent,
No. 22 West Water-st., Providence, R. I.
Providence, Jan. 15, 1856.
109—114n16

PATRICK'S BOY BABY.

The following story is here printed, for the first time, as far as we know. All other periodicals copying it, except Harper's Magazine, are requested to give due credit to the American Agriculturist. Patrick was, theoretically, a devout member of the church, but so far as attending to its ordinances was concerned, he left all such matters to his other half. It happened, on a time, that a new-comer in the family required christening, according to custom and belief with Patrick, but the mother was unable to attend to it *this* time; so calling her lord to the bedside she gave him sundry and particular directions as to his deportment in church, and the manner of presenting the child for the ordinance, &c. At the appointed hour, Patrick set out for church, and remembered his instruction so far as to present the child at the chancel, but here his presence of mind and memory failed him. The Priest had gone so far as to call out twice, "Name this child!" but not a word could Patrick get from the end of his tongue. To help him out of this difficulty the Priest whispered in his ear, "Say John," and "John," he said. The ceremony proceeded, "John, I baptize thee, &c." After it was over, and Patrick having become somewhat composed, walked leisurely down the aisle toward the door, and was heard to soliloquize, "Well! well! I wonder what the old woman will say. We have one 'John' *at home*, now, and besides, this is a *girl*."

Rather Hard Rowing.—Away down in North Carolina, on the Northeast river, three tipsy fellows went on board their small boat, late one night, and commenced rowing for home, a few miles up stream. After tugging at the oars for some three hours, and seeing through the dim, gray light of the breaking morning, a house upon the side of the river, they concluded to go on shore and ascertain there whereabouts. The result of their observations was, that they had not untied the rope, but had been pulling at the oars all night without moving an inch.

How to be Happy.—1st. A man out of money can't be happy. 2d. A man without a wife can't be happy. 3d. A man out of health can't be happy.

Therefore I have come to the conclusion, that the best way to be happy is to take care of your health, keep out of debt, and get a wife.—Journal of Health.

A life of piety is the only truly happy life.

To be angry with a weak man is a proof that you are not very strong yourself.

They who respect themselves will be honored; but they who do not care about their character, will be despised.

A word once spoken, a coach with four horses cannot overtake it and bring it back.

The habit of thought chiefly points out a wise man from a foolish man.

An idle boy will probably make a mean old man.

Why was St. Paul like a horse? Because he loved *Timothy*.

INDEX.

An apology—if needed........188
"An Ax to grind," Origin of the phrase........188
Asparagus, early........170
Beauty of Earth........186
Beets in the garden, How to raise........Editorial..184
Blackberry, New-Rochelle or Lawton, value and how to cultivate........Editorial..186
Bobolink—Beautiful description of........Irving..186
Books, Pamphlets, &c........Editorial..176
Boys, Honor among........187
Cabbage Crops, Culture, Varieties, &c.....Editorial. 184
Calendar of Operations for May........Editorial..171
Clover, sow for-manure—why, when, how.Editorial..172
Corn, planting in a late season........Editorial..172
Corn, Premiums for important experiments.Editorial..178
Corn, those "Great Ears"........Com .175
Corns on Toes........Com..188
Cows, milk fever in........Com..178
Diogene's man found........181
Egg plant, value and how to grow........Editorial..185
Fruit tree. set out one........182
Hams, canvas bags for........188
Happy, how to be........192
Horse, balky. to make one draw........178
Horses, how fed by R. R. and Stage Co's...Editorial..179
Horses, &c. dead, questions about........Com..179
Hydraulic cement water-pipes, how to make.Editorial..173
Lambs on trees and fences, why put there......Com..180
Lucerne, valuable for pastureand hay......Editorial—177
May work for Females........Anna Hope..170
Machinery, Agricultural—Now and then...Editorial..173
Melons, Squashes, &c., how to plant........Editorial..183
Millet cultivation &c., (illustrated)........175
Nasturtiums vs. Cucumbers—cultivation...Editorial..184
Okra, value and culture........Editorial..184
Patrick's Boy Baby........Editorial..192
Political Article (not)........Illustrated........180
Pomological Society, American........Editorial..186
Pork trade, Western for 1855........188
Potatoes early—one way to get........Editorial..182
" Experiments with........Editorial..172
" Sweet, chapter on culture........Editorial..183
Radishes, good, at little cost or trouble....Editorial..185
Rhododendrons, every one may have them.Editorial..185
Recipes—Batter Pudding........175
" German Toast........175
" Grease extracted from cloth........188
" Soft Jumbles........175
Rowing, rather hard........172
Salsify or vegetable oyster........Editorial..184
Seed beds, how to prepare........Editorial..182
Sisters upon the farm, To my—No. 2........Eliza..174
Soap-making explained........Editorial..174
Stone Fences; way to prevent tumbling....Editorial..173
Tim Bunker Esq., his history........Editorial..181
Villages, sharp hits at "builders" of........181
West, Eastern farmers going—No. 2........Editorial..176
Wheat, Spring, farmer's experience with......Com...177
Work for the Month........Editorial..169

Business Notices.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

☞ Back Numbers and Back Volumes.—We have no more of these to spare, previous to Vol. XII—our entire extra edition up to that time having been exhausted.

Of Vols. XII, XIII and XIV, we have several sets, which will be furnished so long as they last, at $1, unbound, or $1 50, neatly bound in muslin.

Of the present Volume, previous to March, we have only complete sets from No. 1, (October,) with a few extra copies of October, November and December, but none of January and February—the unexpected number of new subscribers beginning with the year having exhausted all the copies of those two months, except such as are kept in full sets.

New subscribers, or those renewing, can begin with March or April, until the remaining few hundred extra copies of those months are exhausted, after wrich, new subscriptions must begin with May, or any future number that may be desired.

☞ Ask Agents for Receipts.—The Authorized Aoents of the American Agriculturist are furnished with the regular printed Office receipts, which are signed with a pen at the bottom and upon the left margin, by the Proprietor. When these are presented, no one need have the least hesitancy in receiving them, as they are given out only to responsible persons.

American Agriculturist.

FIFTEENTH VOLUME

A Leading and Standard Agricultural Journal, devoted to the development and improvement of every department of Soil Culture, and adapted equally to the circumstances and wants of those who cultivate small plots of ground or large farms.

It is designed to collect and communicate plain, practical, and reliable information upon the

> Selection of Seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various Field and Garden Crops; Fruit Growing; Care, Treatment and Improvement of all kinds of Domestio Animals; the Construction and Embellishment of Farm Buildings; Housing, Preserving, and Marketing the Products of the Farm, Orchard, Garden and Dairy; and to the Domestic or Household labors of the Rural Home.

The proprietor of the Agriculturist—having been trained from childhood to the active labors of a large farm embracing a varied culture, and having devoted a dozen years to studying the principles lying at the foundation of improved soil culture in schools, in the field, in the laboratory, and in traveling for observation—trusts that he will be able to set before the readers of this journal such a collection of sound and practical information as will be to each a continual source of valuable knowledge.

Having no connection, directly or indirectly, with any other business whatever, and owning and controling the columns of this paper, the Editor claims to be entirely independent of all influences which, under other circumstances, might be supposed to modify or govern his opinions or teachings.

Those gentlemen whose labors have contributed so much in years past to the value of the pages of the Agriculturist, still feel a lively interest in its continued and increased prosperity, and they promise their editorial assistance. ☞ The best editorial aid to be found in the country will be continually sought for.

The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month in which it is dated.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ In addition to the above rates:

Postage to Canada	12 cents.
Postage to Europe	24 cents.
Delivered in New-York city	12 cents.

The paper is considered paid for wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 189 Water-st.,
New-York.

WEEKLY NEWS, MARKET REPORTS, &C.

By an arrangement with Messrs. Raymond, Wesley & Co., Proprietors of the New York Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly TIMES, the Editor of the Agriculturist is engaged to prepare the Agricultural Department of their papers, including the Reports of the New-York Cattle Markets, &c. The WEEKLY TIMES contains all the matter relating to these subjects, which embrace extended and reliable reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world.

Those desiring it will be furnished by the Proprietor of the Agriculturist with the two papers combined, as follows:

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 25
Ten copies of both papers one year	17 00

Aoents, &c.—Mr. C. Taber, and Mr. A. Whitman, are regularly employed in the office of the American Agriculturist. They will make occasional tours into various parts of the country, to collect notes of the practice and experience of Farmers and Gardeners; and to attend to business matters connected with subscriptions and advertisements. They will at all times carry credentials and regular receipts and other documents of the Office. Any information or assistance rendered to them will be duly appreciated by the Publisher.

Mr. Wm. Lloyd Bowers, of Providence, is our regular accredited agent for Rhode Island, and the adjacent parts of Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

Printed by R. Cunnington, 191 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 9.] NEW-YORK, JUNE, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 113.

☞The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor at 191 Water-st. (near Fulton).

☞All Business and other letters should be addressed to ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st.,
New-York City.

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

'Sweet June! with thy fair forehead bound
With dewy wild-flowers, and with roses crownd,
I love thee well.
Deep in the heart of man, all o'er the earth
Thy presence spreads a livelier tone of mirth,
A soft deep spell.
The newly budded groves repeat thy call
With joy through all the thick arcades;
And the hoarse plunging waterfall
Rejoices in its dim primeveal shades."

But the finest description of the poet can not half equal the reality of a June scene in the forest. One must stand there beneath that canopy of verdure, and see the fresh leaves, the tender shoots of new made wood, upon the end of every bough ; one must hear the plunge of the waterfall and the soft murmur of the breeze in the tree tops ; and feel the pressure of the spongy moss and the decaying leaves beneath his feet, to realize the scene. What a contrast now, to the same forest in mid winter. Then the brook that leaps and roars and foams in all the wildness of its summer gambles, was stiffened with the beauty of still life. No artist could fix in stone forms so beautiful as fringed this stream, a few brief months ago. But the fairy creations of the frost king are all vanished now, and the icy diamonds that glittered on every leaflet of the pine and hemlock, now sparkle in the laughing waters of the brook as they bound away toward the sea. Then the forests bare of foliage, and deserted of the singing birds, awed the spirit by their silence, and invited man to self communion and reflection. Now every thing here seems with life, and invites man to observation and enjoyment. There is something new to study in the most familiar scenes. The trees have a new dress, and the young shoots are making progress day by day, that the eye can detect. The moss covered rock assumes a new livery, and green shrubs and flowers of every hue crop out of its rifted sides. The insects are busy whirling through the air, crawling along the trunks of trees, and upon the earth in search of food, or making preparation to lay their eggs for another generation of their kind. Now is the time to study the habits of these creatures that so often prey upon the labors of the husbandman, and destroy his hopes of harvest.

But the cultivated fields invite us, as well as the wildness and beauty of the forest. Seed time is almost past. How many precious hopes have been committed to the torn and broken sod. The grains and seeds of roots that were thus sown or planted have not mocked the cultivator's hopes. Already they have broken the dark earth in which they were entombed and wonders great as the resurrection morn swarm along every cultivated field. The young blades of corn have already increased the print of the hoe, left upon the planted hill. The purple leaflets of the potato are just visible in the drills. The young oats are luxurious and the winter wheat and rye, are already heading out, and pushing on toward maturity. But we have more pressing duties than observation during this month, though we could wish that cultivators observed their crops more closely, and the insects that often commit such ravages, upon them. These field studies would often be found more profitable than books.

June is a hot month, and thc man's business is the care of crops already planted. It is not too late however to put in potatoes, and the early kinds of Indian corn during the first days of this month. But

TILLAGE

is the great work of June in the field and in the garden. As a rule we pay far too little attention to our hoed crops, corn, potatoes, and other roots after planting. Potatoes are hoed once and corn twice. An additional hoeing is thought to be a waste of time and labor. We believe from our own experiments and from the reported experiments of others, that capital expended in the cultivation of crops will bring as good returns as capital invested in manure, or in good tools. Tillage was hardly over estimated even by Jethro Tull, the first great advocate of a deep and thorough pulverization of the soil in English husbandry. He recommended the scarifying of the soil as often as once in ten or twelve days through the growing season. This certainly works well in the garden upon the cabbage plants, which are profitably hoed once a week, until the heads are well formed, and the ground is mostly shaded. Potatoes may be profitably hoed twice or three times before they are in blossom. After they bloom, we have thought the stirring of the soil tended to the formation of new tubers, and made too large a share of small potatoes in the harvest. But there is no such danger in the treatment of corn, and we frequently hoe this crop four and five iimes, and think the last two hoeings pay as well as the first three. On the last two hoeings we would not use the cultivator, or horse harrow, as they might injure the surface roots, which begin to form abundantly the latter part of the season. If any cultivator doubts this, let him try the experiment on any acre of corn. Let him divide his acre into three equal parts. Cultivate and hoe the whole acre, say on the 1st, 15th, and 30th days of June. Then leave one third for the rest of the season. The second third, hoe on the 15th of July, and leave for the rest of the season. The last third hoe on the 15th, and 31st of July, and then leave till harvest. Husk and measure each third accurately, and note the result. We think the hoeings will pay better at about two weeks interval, rather than to come later in the season. At the middle and last of August, many surface roots must be destroyed, and this might more than balance the advantage of stirring the soil. We would cultivate perfectly flat, unless the ground is wet when it may be an advantage to make a small hill about the plants at the last hoeing. We want more light upon the matter of thorough tillage, and we trust the readers of our journal will institute experiments this summer, to satisfy themselves. If it appears that each hoeing adds two or three bushels per acre to the corn crop, he can easily determine whether or not it will pay.

KEEP THE WEEDS DOWN,

whether you hoe many times or few. These pests of the farm not only abstract the riches of the soil, but they scatter their seeds among all kinds of grain and grasses, and greatly hinder future cultivation. It cost us several hard days' work last year, to eradicate the charlock from a piece of Spring Wheat, which had been stocked years before with that troublesome weed. Some slack cultivator let the intruder go to seed in his corn field, and twenty years after they return to plague his successor, and cost him five dollars to abate the nuisance. The present operations of the farmer, like those of most other kinds of business, take hold of future years. For your own future comfort and prosperity, keep down the weeds.

GOOD TOOLS

are now paying a large interest, and if you are not furnished with a steel toothed cultivator, to go between the corn and potatoes, make the investment immediately. In smooth land it is far preferable to the harrow. It lifts the soil and leaves it very fine. Light hoes also make a great difference in the ease with which a day's labor may be accomplished, and in the amount of labor done.

MILLET.

This is a fine crop for winter fodder. Some farmers think it as valuable as the best English hay. See articles on millet in the May issue, and this number.

CORN FOR FODDER.

We desire to keep this article before the eyes of our readers. This may be sown at any time up to the fifteenth or end of June. We would not sow later on account of the difficulty of curing the crop. We have seen some complaint made upon this point, in our agricultural journals. The corn stalks molded, and made poor fodder. It was cut up too late in the season, when there was not sufficient heat in the sun to dry the stalks. The last week in August, or the first of September, is a very good time to cure it well. Of course there will not be so much in weight, but it will be better cured and much more valuable.

HAYING.

Some pieces of grass badly lodged may need to be cut the last of this month. But with this exception this business will go over to another month.

MULCHING

should be attended too early. The young trees set out this Spring, are now nicely started, and the soil is thoroughly warmed. The danger now is, that the hot sun and drying winds of Summer, will either stop their growth, or kill them outright. Give them a good mulch of old hay, shavings, sawdust, or fine brush. Any thing that will retain moisture, and shield their roots from the hot sun, will answer. Many a fine tree is lost, for want of this protection. The Raspberry plants will also be greatly benefitted by this treatment. This shrub loves a deep moist soil, and a mulch facilitates both the formation of young plants, and the perfecting of the fruit. The berries ripen in succession for several weeks, and it often happens, that the later berries are very small for want of sufficient moisture. Try mulching about the bearing canes, and mark the result. The finer kind of Raspberries, as the Fastolff, the Franconia, and the Antwerps, make new plants very slowly in comparison with the more hardy varieties. Mulching will help this difficulty, and give the cultivator a much larger crop of young plants to dispose of next Spring. At one dollar a dozen they pay much better than most farm crops. The berries also are a good crop at twenty-five cents a quart. The market in all our cities and villages is not half supplied with this delicious fruit.

STRAWING THE STRAWBERRY

must also be attended to early this month, if it has not been done before. A heavy rain will often spoil a whole picking of these berries, if the strawing has been neglected.

Each rain drop as it falls scatters the dirt, and it lodges upon the berries and adheres. They are not marketable. To prevent this, lay between the rows any clean hay or straw to cover the dirt. Tan, also answers a very good purpose. Fresh cut salt hay is also a good article.

WATERING STRAWBERRIES

while blossoming and fruiting, will make the crop much more abundant. This would pay the large cultivator, if he had a one horse sprinkler to apply it with. The amateur, who wishes to take the prizes at the Horticultural exhibitions, will not neglect it. A weak solution of liquid manure is still better.

YOUNG TREES IN FRUIT.

Do not leave a single fruit to mature, upon any young tree set this Spring. It needs all its energies to establish itself in its new position. It should be left to make wood for two or three years after planting. The increased bearing of the tree after that will fully compensate the owner for his self denial. Some trees become hopelessly stunted, by excessive bearing, soon after they are set out. "Wood first, and fruit afterwards," is a good motto. Some of our finest varieties, as the Urbanist, and the Dix show their good sense by putting off bearing until late.

CATERPILLARS,

and other insects must be looked after this month. Clear out every nest, and wash trunk and branch of your trees, in strong soap-suds. A wash of soda or of potash is good, if you know how to make and apply it. But so many young trees are killed with these washes in the hands of the inexperienced, that we do not recommend them in ordinary cases. These are a part of the geoponics of June, to be attended to now or never.—ED.

PASTURAGE FOR DRY WEATHER.

At the risk of complaints of repetition, we cannot let this paper go to press without saying, SOW CORN FOR FODDER! and if not corn, then sow millet. Evidence accumulating an hundred-fold every summer testifies to the great advantages of sowing, drilling, or planting from half an acre to ten acres or more of corn, to be cut up during the latter part of summer, when the pastures are dried up. Besides a regular large plot put in smaller ones here and there around the farm, in this corner, among those potatoes, on the summer fallow, &c., and then during the warm days of August and September, cut up and fed daily to each pastured animal a few handfuls of the green succulent stalks. This will keep them all—whether workers, milkers, or growers—in good heart, and will *pay* ten-fold the cost. Try it, ALL. Sow or plant a little now, some more next week, and a little the week after.

CURING RATTLE SNAKE BITES.—The following is almost too good to be true. We give it for what it is worth. The Wisconsin Farmer says: Take the yolk of a good egg, and put it in a tea cup; stir in as much salt as will make it thick enough not to run off. Spread it as a plaster, and apply it to the wound, and we will insure your life for a sixpence.

A man ceases to be a 'good fellow' the moment he refuses to do precisely what other people wish him to do.

When his physician advised him "take a walk upon an empty stomach," Smith asked "Upon whose?"

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

JUNE 1856.

[We propose to give from month to month, besides our leading article, "Work for the Month," a calendar of some of the more important operations in the field, garden, &c. These are adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 42°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north, earlier south. An early season, or a late one like the present advances or retards operations, so that we shall need to revise and adapt these tables to each year. The letters f. m. l. refer to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month. Doubling the letters thus: ff., mm., or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

Some of the following were in last month's Calendar, but when not attended to or not completed, may be performed this month, ff., to m.

THE FIELD.

Barley—sow ff., if not already done.

Beets—drill in ff., to m. Sow Mangold Wurtzel for catte, as they produce abundantly, and are excellent for milch cows, and other stock.

Buckwheat—sow m., ll.; odd patches which were too wet to work before, may now be sown with Buckwheat, which is a profitable crop requiring but little manure.

Cabbage—for winter use may be planted out f. m. l. Plow or spade deep and manure well.

Carrots—sow ff. Some varieties, especially the Early Horn, may be sown m. l. Carrots, besides being a good vegetable for the table, are very valuable for stock, especially for horses, and on good soil produce an abundant crop. Bone-dust is an excellent manure.

Celery as a Field Crop—plant out ff. Earth up slightly ll. Trench the rows before planting and manure heavily.

Clover—plow in ff. l., or when in blossom,

Corn—plow among early planted mm. l. Sow and drill plentifully for soiling, f. m. l.

Fences—keep in good repair f. m. l., clean out the hedge rows on either side of the fence to prevent their impoverishing the soil and shading the crops.

Hoeing—should be industriously attended to ff. mm. ll. No month in the year requires the hoe to be kept in motion more than the present. Give the young plants space and sunlight in place of weeds.

Hogs—do not neglect their yards and pens, but throw in muck, turf, weeds, leaves and scrapings from the woods and roads, &c., ff. mm. ll., all these will make excellent manure.

Manures—attend to f. m. l., do not allow the droppings to lie exposed over the cow yard till they are as thin as a "pan cake," but scrape them up each morning and throw them in heaps under cover, mixing with muck.

Meadows—keep cattle and especially sheep from them, f. m. l.

Millet—sow f. m. See another page.

Onions—hoe and thin out f. m. l.

Pasturing—f. m. l., do not allow cattle to have too great range, but change often, alternating with sheep.

Potatoes—may still be planted ff. to m. but much better earlier. Plow among and hoe f. l.

Pumpkins—plant ff. to m., among corn for feeding. Plant Cheese-pumpkins in a deep rich soil for family use ff.

Sheep—wash and sheer ff. to m. Get them under cover before storms after they have been sheared.

Tobacco.—Plant out ff.

Tools—see that you have *good* ones. It is a trite saying that "he must be a rich man who can afford to work with *poor* tools." Do not wait till hay and harvest season is upon you and then find your horse rake was so badly broken last season, that you must have a new one. If you have 15 or more acres of grass, we trust you have decided upon having a mowing machine this season. Get one early and fuss a little with it on a damp day to "get the hang of it." See that your forks and rakes and cradles and other hay and harvest implements are all ready, for a busy month is close at hand.

Turnips—sow for market f. m. l.—for winter use ll. Plant a large surface for stock, you can not do better. The Strap-leaved and some other varieties may be sown broad cast, and afford fine pasturage for sheep.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Asparagus—keep clean from weeds and scatter a little coarse salt over the bed, or water with brine.

Beans—Kidney and some other kinds may still be planted ff.

Beets—sow ff. for summer, and m. l. for winter use.

Blackberries—stake up ff.; hoe f. m. l., taking care not to injure the young shoots which are to make the bearing canes for next year's fruit.

Broccoli—plant out f. m. l.

Cabbage—plant out f. m. l.; use air-slaked lime, or wood ashes sprinkled over them when the dew is on, if attacked by the slug or fly; hoe often and deep.

Carrots—sow f. m. l.; hoe and thin out those sown early.

Cauliflowers—plant out f. m. l., and hoe often.

Celery—plant out in trenches well manured and spaded deep ff. m.; earth up very slightly this month.

Corn—plant Early Sweet Corn, and especially Stowell's Evergreen.

Cress or Pepper Grass—sow f. m. l, for a succession.

Cucumbers—plant f. m.; and for pickling m. ll. The Cucumber as well as its congeners is often preyed upon by a yellow or striped bug, to prevent which sprinkle the plants while the dew is on, with air-slaked lime, soot, and wood ashes, or dust very lightly with Guano, repeat often.

Economy of Ground.—A judicious gardener may raise a great amount from a small spot of ground—*well manured and well tilled.* Many small vegetables may be raised among other crops without injuring them in the least. For example, Peas may be planted among Potatoes, the vines of the latter acting as supports for the former. Radishes should not take up any space of their own, but be sown among Beets, Carrots, Parsnips, Melons, Potatoes, &c. (See May Number.) Lettuce, Spinach, early Turnips, &c., may be planted between rows of Corn, Melons, and Cucumbers. Late Cabbages may be set out between the rows of early Potatoes, and Turnips sown after early Peas, &c.

Egg Plants—plant out on rich soil ff. to m.

Hoeing—see field work. Keep the hoe going, *going*, GOING, GOING, *GOING*, but never "*gone*."

Lettuce—sow and plant f. m. l., for a succession.

Melons—may still be planted ff.; look out for bugs.

Nasturtiums—plant ff. See May number.

Onions—hoe and thin f. m. l.

Parsnips—sow on deep spaded or trenched, rich soil ff.; hoe and thin m. l.

Peas—sow f. m.; support early ones.

Potatoes—plant ff.; hoe m. l.

Radishes—sow f. m. l., among other crops. Select light dry soil, a few seeds scattered among Potatoes or in Melon hills, will produce well without injury to the other plants.

Raspberries—Tie up ff. if not already done. If you have no stakes the tops of two stools may be tied together. Keep free from weeds, and stir the ground often.

Salsify—hoe and thin, f. m.

Spinach or Spinage—sow f. m. l.; thin out early sowings for use.

Squashes—plant ff. m. The squash is an especial favorite of the yellow bug, see directions for Cucumbers.

Strawberry-Beds—keep the ground clear from weeds; and water the beds frequently and thoroughly during the bearing season unless it rains often. See another page.

Tomatoes—plant out f. m.

Turnips—sow Early Dutch, and Strap-leaved f. m. Ruta Baga and Swedes for winter use, ll. Turnips, Beets, Cabbages, &c., for winter use are more tender and will keep better when sown late so as to mature during the cool weather of Autumn.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

There is comparatively little required doing in the flower garden this month besides keeping the ground well stirred and free from weeds, and an occasionally watering of plants that have been removed.

Anemonies—and other bulbs may be lifted and dried as soon as the leaves have decayed.

Annuals—may still be sown ff. m.

Box—for edging, plant out ff. Shear or clip old borders.

Carnations—trim off side shoots and tie flower stalks to supporters. Water during dry weather, and open the flower pods with scissors, especially if the flower is bursting out at one side; attend to layering, &c.

Chrysanthemums—plant out on dry borders, or in masses, manuring with leaf mold or peat. Apply Guano Water, or at least sink slops during dry weather.

Columbine—divide the roots after flowering.

Cypress Vine—sow in a circle so as to form a pyramid ff. The circle may be from three to six feet in diameter with a pole in the center. Drive down small stakes in the circle, and attach strings to the top of the pole, tying them to the stakes in the circle for the vines to run up on.

Dahlias—plant out and tie up shoots.

Edgings—pare with the edging knife, and cut the grass with garden shears or grass hook, paring evenly.

Evergreens—set out such as White Pine, Norway Spruce, Arbor Vitæ, Hemlock, &c., in yard or lawn., watering freely.

Fuchsias—plant out ff. to m.

Geraniums—plant out on borders and in masses ff. to m.

Graveled Walks—use the scuffle hoe to cut down the weeds, after which rake and sweep off.

Hedges—trim evenly with garden shears f. to l.; clip evergreen hedges lightly.

Hoeing—is as essential to flowers, as to vegetables, hoe, *hoe*, HOE, HOE, *HOE*.

Lawn—mow ff. l., and roll smooth. Keep

Hybridizing—see another page.

the grass from trees, shrubs and flowers. We have seen fine evergreens "choked" out and killed from a rank growth of grass almost entirely hiding them from view.

Potted Plants—water often and thoroughly, one good watering is worth a dozen sprinklings.

Rhododendrons—may still be set in the lawn or garden; take up a good ball of earth with the roots and they may be moved at almost any time. (See page 185 last month.)

Pruning—Evergreens require but little pruning, except cutting out dead branches, and clipping some varieties to give them a compact habit; prune Deciduous Shrubs, ll.

Roses—this is the month when

> ——"All is ecstacy, for now
> The valley holds its Feast of Roses."

Bud and layer choice varieties; support standards and weak bushes; syringe with a solution of Whale oil soap, if troubled by the slug, or saw-fly. In many localities the cultivator finds his blooms and even the buds beset by innumerable chafers or rose-bugs, to destroy which he finds no easy task, we know of no better way than to spread sheets under the bushes and shake them off and destroy them by wholesale.

Verbenas—plant out ff., in masses, or on dry borders watering occasionally.

GREEN AND HOT HOUSE.

There will be very little to do *in* the green-house this month, as most of the plants have already been carried to open grounds. Others may now be carried out f. to m., admitting plenty of air during the day.

Make cuttings of geraniums and other plants; layer, inarch and make offsets.

Place the pots of plants carried from the house in a situation where they will be shielded from high winds; and support weak plants by stakes placed in the center of the pots.

Some will need repotting and others only require to be replenished, while *all* must be watered from two to three times a week, and if the weather is very dry, even oftener. Syringe frequently. Water in the morning before 9 o'clock, or after 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Spread grass over the surface of tubs or boxes containing orange trees and other large plants to prevent evaporation. Many of the bulbous roots will be ready to take up and dry m. to l.

Fumigate occasionally, &c.

Thin out Grapes and pinch off side shoots

ORCHARD.

Mulch trees which have been set out this Spring, watering them in dry weather; keep grass and weeds from growing about their roots.

Thin out the fruit especially from young trees, which often set more than they can properly mature, this is particularly the case with the dwarf pear the first season after transplanting. Two of our own, planted out a year ago last Spring, both set abundance of fruit, all of which save three pears were taken from one, while the other was allowed to mature about one dozen. The fruit on the former was much larger and finer than that of the latter; while the trees now show a marked difference, the one taxed above its powers making very little growth while the other is very thrifty.

Pruning may be done m. l, give particular attention to the trimming of young trees, shaping them so that a *saw* will never after be needed to cut off large branches.

Look out for catterpillars and destroy them as soon as they appear by pinching, or rubbing their nests with rags dipped in a strong solution of whale-oil soap; the rags may be tied to the end of a pole.

Search for borers about the roots of Peach trees, and watch the approach of the curculio on your Plum trees. Spread a sheet under the trees each morning, and jar them suddenly with the hand, after which gather the insects and burn them, a coating of fine salt scattered under the tree is thought to be a preventive.

Cut black spots or wart-like excresences from Plum trees, paring smooth if the branches on which they appear are too large to cut off.—Ed.

Effect of Guano—Large Crop of Grass.—Mr. John Gardner, of Staten Island, cut on the 20th of May, from less than one-fourth of an acre, 815 lbs. of thoroughly cured hay. The surface mown was an old lawn, laid down for many years in grass, is very much shaded, at least one-half of it being covered with trees of dense foliage. The grass was dressed with less than 100 lbs. of Peruvian Guano, on the 12th of April, just after the snow had left the ground, (no other manure of any description being used.) The grass was cut on Monday and exposed in the swath or spread till Saturday, through three of the most sunny, drying days we have had this season. We think the Guano paid for itself in this first crop, yet there may be at least three more for this season, and its effects will unquestionably be felt through another year.—[Ed.

The United States Camels.—Thirty of these animals, procured by a government appropriation, to test their adaptability to this country, were landed, May 13, at Indianola, Texas, from the U. S. Store Ship Supply. They were accompanied by one Armenian interpreter, two Turks, and three Arabs. It is the intention of the government to try them as land transports on the western ains and prairies.

MANURE ABSORBENTS.

The last load of manure is at length cleared from the yard, the stables, the hovels, and the barn cellars. It is doing its appointed work in the field, hurrying up the potatoes, tasseling the corn, maturing the fruit, and thickening the grass. All these places are now to be filled with absorbents. The droppings of your cattle should not be allowed to fall for a single day upon the empty yard. This is a vital point in good husbandry, and is too often overlooked. It is a busy season, the crops need hoeing, haying is coming, and too often the carting of dirt into the yard, goes over to August or September. The hot months, when evaporation goes on most rapidly, is the time when absorbents are most essential. The summer sun will steal away your manure if you do not lock it up immediately, in some carbonaceous matter. This, fortunately, is abundant on most farms, and should be immediately looked up and put in its proper place. Every thing in the shape of vegetable matter, dry or decaying, is a good article for this purpose. Old swamp hay, corn stalks, seaweed, &c., should be thrown into the yard and stables for the cattle to lie on.

At the foot of the hill there is a low spot, that has been receiving the wash of the highway for many years. Quite likely the loam is two or three feet deep, furnishing a large quantity of dirt. Then, in the lower part of the meadow, there is a swale that needs ditching, in order to destroy the sour grasses, that now thrive in the wet soil. Put the ditch straight through it, and kill two birds with one stone. Then the swamp where you cut bog hay, and pull moss to caulk the cider press, and to pack nursery trees, would be benefitted by ditching. The muck is there in great abundance, and the yard needs it.

There is also a peat bog upon your premises, quite likely covered with the swamp whortleberry, and the sweet pepper bush, which ought to have been invaded years ago. The peat quite likely is five or six feet deep, and contains all the elements of the crops you wish to grow another year. Again, in the forest, whence you draw your supplies of fuel, there are hollows, partially covered with water in the winter, into which large quantities of leaves have been washing every year for centuries. These are very valuable deposits. The water is already gone from them. Gather up the decayed and spongy material, and drop it in the yard to absorb your manure. This, remember, is the foundation of your next year's operations upon the farm, and must not be neglected.—[Ed.

Lucerne.—On page 177, of last month's issue, we noticed some experiments made by Mr. Cleu, (not Clou), of Hyde Park, N. Y. To-day, (May 27,) Mr. C. called with a handful of the grass cut from the field where of the ordinary hight. The specimens before us average 29 inches in length. This is certainly a large growth, considering the lateness of the present season.

The leaves resemble clover. The stalks are green and succulent at the base, and taste to us very like the pods of peas. Mr. Cleu is highly pleased with the result of his experiments, especially that his crop has entirely resisted the severe cold of the last winter. He cuts it this week.

NOW FOR THOSE HAY CAPS.

We think we were the first to suggest the use of hay-caps several years ago, and we have written something on the subject a number of times since. But whoever was the originator, we are sure the things themselves are good, and this is the month to make them, if the work was neglected during the comparative leisure of winter. If the coming haying be anything like the last, they will more than pay cost this year, while with care they will last eight or ten seasons, if not longer. A dozen caps will often save a ton of hay in good order, which would otherwise be nearly spoiled, and the same caps may be used several times during one year, both for hay and grain.

Buy a piece of brown cotton, five or six quarters wide, and stretch it upon stakes, or better, upon the side of a board or post-and-rail fence. With a common painter's brush apply a coat of common linseed oil, mixed with about one-fourth its bulk of spirits of turpentine well stirred in, while both are warm. Let it hang until dry, and it will be ready for use. A composition has been recommended made by boiling together one gallon of linseed oil and two pounds of beeswax, and stirring in a quart of Japan varnish when cold. This appears to be an excellent preparation, and is probably preferable to simple oil and turpentine, though more troublesome to prepare at first.

When the cloth is dry, cut it into squares, and attach a small eyelet or loop to the four corners of each square, and put them aside for use.

When the hay is cut down, and there is a prospect of a shower, or of a heavy dew, throw it hastily into cocks, or even rude heaps, spread over one of these caps, pinning down each corner with a pointed stick put through the loops. Some recommend sewing small stones in bags and fastening them permanently to each corner of the cap, so that it can be thrown quickly over the hay, without stopping to pin it down. This is preferable on one account—the weights will keep the cloth stretched when the heap settles. The main objection is that the covers would frequently be lifted off by the wind unless the weights were quite heavy, in which case the caps would be troublesome to carry about or pack away. We suggest instead of sticks or fixed weights, to make up a lot of separate weights, and to attach to each of these a small hook made by bending a wire. These could be carried in a basket, and hooked into the cap as wanted. Prepared in any of these ways, we are satisfied that hay caps are a cheap, *economical* thing, that should be provided by every farmer. They are convenient not only for hay-cocks, but for throwing over grain shooks, heaps of fruit, &c. It is well to have one or two of large size, to cover loads of hay or grain and to throw over implements and even animals requiring temporary protection from rain or dew.

TIM BUNKER'S VIEW OF THE BIRD LAW.

Jeremiah Sparrowgrass left Hookertown, for the commercial metropolis, at the tender age of sixteen, thinking that his salvation would be effected, and his fortune made forever, if he could find a situation as clerk in a dry good store. He found in the city the object of his lofty ambition, and, after a little roughing it, was duly installed as errand boy and professor of all small jobs, in a respectable establishment in Broadway. At the age of twenty-one, Jeremiah is a clerk with a salary, in the establishment where he began his mercantile life; a youth of promise in the esteem of his friends, and not slow in his own estimation. In May he took it into his head to visit his country cousins in Hookertown, and to regale himself a little with country sports.

Nothing seemed better adapted to his tastes than gunning, and he accordingly brought up from the city a fowling-piece, that he might carry out his deadly intent. He had seen certain brave and chivalrous souls returning from the Jerseys, dressed with hunting cap and coat, and ornamented with powder flask, shot bag and game pouch, the very pictures of genteel recreation.

So the first morning after he had surprised Hookertown with his advent, he girdled on his shooting toggery, and military weaponry, determined to make the birds of his native parish smell gunpowder and bite the dust. He had some obscure recollections that there was a prejudice against birds among the farmers, on account of their pulling up corn, and thought he should be performing a very good deed, as well as exhibiting his own prowess by destroying them. His whole memory of country life had become exceedingly impaired by his city residence, and he delighted to show his ignorance of country life by asking questions upon topics that he was thoroughly instructed in when he was a boy of ten upon the farm.

Passing Deacon Smith's orchard, Jeremiah Sparrowgrass, merchant of the city of New-York, spied a robin red-breast, singing away right merrily, with his bill in the air, as if his whole soul was exhaling in the melody. Beneath, in a fork of the tree was his mate, with a nest full of birdlings, and surely a happier family group was not to be found any where in the country. Bang went the gun of Mr. Jeremiah Sparrowgrass, and that morning song was ended. It was owing entirely to the sportsman's inexperience, that a husband and lover was not also ended, and a whole brood bereaved of their natural protector. The report of the gun brought out Deacon Smith before the heroic Mr. Sparrowgrass had time to reload his piece, and make a demonstration upon the mother, who was fluttering and crying in a state of great apprehension in the tree tops. Jerry knew the Deacon as well as any boy knows his seniors in a country church that he has always attended, but this morning affected ignorance, both of the deacon and his robins.

"My dear sir, will you have the kindness to inform me what species of bird this is. I am making a collection of the feathered tribes for my *her barium*, and should like to add this specimen to my list."

"This bird," replied the Deacon, "is known as the Condor of the Andes, the same kind that sometimes carries off *calves*."

Jeremiah Sparrowgrass, merchant of New-York city, did not stop to finish loading his gun, but sloped in the most expeditious manner.

He crossed the road and struck into the cow pasture of Tim Bunker, thinking less probably of his *her barium*, and scientific attainments, than before he shot at the robin. Here he found birds more plenty than he had ever known them in his boyhood. A statute of Connecticut, enacted a few years since, which prohibits shooting certain varieties of birds upon another's land, under a heavy penalty, proves a very efficient protection, and the birds have multiplied wherever the citizens have put it in force. Timothy Bunker, Esq., being a justice of the peace, and arriving at the honor somewhat late in life, had zealously enforced the law in his neighborhood, not only to maintain the dignity of the law, but to protect his own fields against the depredations of the insects. Though a very conservative man he could see the benefits of the law, and promptly warned off all intruders from his wood and swamp pastures, where the birds loved to congregate.

Jeremiah Sparrowgrass was first saluted by a Bobolink from the stake of a rail fence: "Link, link-ee, wink, wink-ee, sweetch, sweetch-ee-ee, wee, wee-ee-ee-ee." His fire brought down poor Bob O'Lincoln, a wounded dying bird, and waked up Tim Bunker, who happened to be in the adjoining field planting corn. The genteel merchant in pursuit of country pleasures, was just bagging his game when Esq. Bunker came up. Sparrowgrass had only got as far as "My dear sir will you have the kindness" in his stereotyped speech of enquiry, when he was interrupted.

Why Jerry is this you, out here in Hookertown again, with your gun, killing our birds. You ought to be ashamed of yourself to shoot a poor skunk black-bird. What harm has he ever done you. His song is a little crooked I allow, but cold lead is not the stuff to straighten it with. It is the same song the Almighty *gin* him to sing and he has as good a right to sing it as you have to measure tape. It is a most inhuman thing to kill birds when they are laying their eggs, and hatching their young. Besides, Jerry, we've got a law against it, and all good citizens ought to obey the law. The birds are the best friends the farmer has, and we have learned better than to kill the crows, as we used to when they pulled the corn. Now Jerry, put up your shooting iron, and go straight home to widow Sparrowgrass's, and if you shoot another bird in these parts I'll have you fined before night."

Mr. Jeremiah Sparrowgrass withdrew immediately, being particularly disgusted that an old farmer should call a Broadway merchant "Jerry," and very much out of humor with the Connecticut Bird Law. The statute however is likely to stand for some years to come.—[Ed.

HYBRIDIZING OF PLANTS.

This subject is yearly attracting more attention among cultivators, and has already been turned to profitable account in the production of some of our finest varieties of fruit and vegetables. Every plant seems to be endowed by the Creator with a capacity for almost unlimited improvement. At least, the limits of perfection have not yet been reached, and those who have made this matter their study, have the most faith in the improvement of plants. The amateur, from his extensive acquaintance with varieties, knows what is wanted in a given fruit, and can go to work intelligently to produce a new variety, that shall possess the desideratum. Nature has set the limits to his efforts, and wisely directs him to the points where he may make improvements. An apple may not be crossed upon a pear, so as to produce a new fruit, having the qualities of both the parents. But one variety of pear may be crossed upon another variety, so as to produce a new fruit, that shall not only have certain qualities of the respective stocks, from which it was taken, but certain original qualities, unlike any other variety. Fruit trees are improveable in the time of their coming into bearing, and in the character of their wood and foliage, in the time of ripening their fruits, in their size, appearance and quality. We have no one pear that unites in itself every desirable quality And if we had such a pear for the summer months, we should want to produce another equally good for each season of the year, so that all the circling months should bring their tribute of perfect fruit to reward the skill and industry of man.

Some pear trees, which produce very fine fruit, are very slow growers, and come into bearing very late. It would be a desirable thing to produce another variety, with all their good qualities, making wood rapidly and producing fruit in five years from the bud, instead of fifteen. The Seckle is perhaps the highest flavored of pears, but it is a slow grower, and the fruit is very small. If we could have a seedling Seckle, that would retain all the flavor of its parent, and give us the rapid growth of the Bartlett, its early bearing, and the size of its fruit, it would be a great improvement. The Doyenne d' ete is the earliest of our summer pears, but it is small. Could its size be doubled, it would be a great addition to our summer fruits. The months of August, September, October, and November, are already well supplied with excellent pears. Fine winter pears, that ripen with little trouble and prolong their season into the spring months, are still scarce. Pears ripening very early or very late should now receive the attention of our best cultivators. We have not a few amateurs in this country, who are giving special attention to this fruit. They are producing new seedlings from fruits that were carefully crossed under their own supervision, and patiently testing their qualities. It is a work of years to produce a new pear, to test the qualities of its wood and fruit, so as to give an intelligent opinion of its whole character. but there is no field of study and labor more inviting to a gentleman of intelligence and wealth, who can give it his personal attention.

Some errors prevail upon the hybridizing of plants, which it is worth while to correct. It is not uncommon to hear farmers asserting, that potatoes will mix by being planted together. They believe that a white potato planted near a red one, would be likely to impart something of its qualities to its neighbor, and that the produce of either variety would not henceforth be true to its kind. But there can be no mixing of plants by this method. The pollen of one variety would affect the blossom of another, and the seeds formed from the impregnated blossom would produce potatoes of a new kind. And this is the reason why such a great variety of potatoes will come of the seeds taken from a single potato ball. All our first seedlings are produced in this way, and, so far as we have learned, have been the result of chance crossing. All plants and vegetables of the same genus, whose period of blossoming is at the same date, are susceptible of hybridization, in intermixture, by means, and through the agency of blossoms, and in no other way. The pistils of the blossoms of one variety, receive the fertilizing pollen from the stamens of another, and the seed which matures, necessarily contains the germ of the variety with which it has become impregnated, by the intermixture.

The knowledge of this law of hybridizing is as necessary to retain old varieties in their purity, as it is to originate new varieties. The Melons, Squashes and Cucumbers, are continually degenerating, from the ignorance or carelessness of this law. If you have a desirable vine of Squash, it is a matter of great importance to retain pure seed for another year. This can only be done with some care and pains taking. The process is so simple that an intelligent child can understand it, and attend to the work of crossing. On the vine of the Squash you will observe in the female blossom, the young Squash already formed before the blossom opens. You can easily tell, by observation when this blossom is to open. On the morning of the day it unfolds, take a piece of lace and completely cover the blossom, so as to cut off the access of all insects. The lace may be made into a little bag, with a string to draw up the mouth closely. When the blossom unfolds look for a male blossom, which has been similarly guarded, and with a camel's hair pencil bring some of its pollen, and apply to the pistil of the female flower. Replace the lace, and in a short time the corolla will close of itself, and the bag can be removed. The work is done. Mark the specimens of fruit thus treated by sticking down a stake. You will find them true to their kind. This, of course, is some trouble, but what cultivator that appreciates his calling, will refuse to take it in order to have genuine seed.—[Ed.

IRRIGATION.

With the wane of our forests, our summers are becoming so dry that irrigation is beginning to command the attention of our farmers. The need of it is already felt in pasture, mowing land, and cultivated fields, almost every summer. Many parts of our country abound in hills and vallies, brooks, and springs, and large tracts of land could be watered in the driest time, at comparatively small expense. A perfect system of irrigation for a large farm, of course involves a large outlay, and no man will venture upon it without first convincing himself that it will pay. But there are particular fields on very many of our farms, where the experiment might be tried at small expense. Here is a field with a copious spring on the highest part, that runs off into the neighboring wood without any perceptible benefit to any thing. It might easily be enlarged, so as to hold a considerable body of water for a fountain head. Then, narrow channels might be dug from it, to convey the water into all parts of the field whenever it was needed. These small ditches could be made with the plow, and would soon turf over so as to produce grass. Such a small stream of water turned upon a gravelly knoll, or pasture, would produce a wonderful result.

In another part of the farm there is a brook that might be dammed, and form a large pond. It overlooks perhaps half of the farm, and could readily be turned upon it through the proper channels. At a short distance from this brook, there is a hill on which a reservoir might be built to distribute water over the whole farm. Its waters are abundant enough to do its own pumping, and the reservoir can be kept full with only the expense of pipe and a force pump to be worked by the stream. This we are persuaded would pay upon some farms.

With a full supply of water for irrigation, crops would be greatly increased. Some pastures could be made to double their amount of grass, by this process alone. Corn perhaps suffers less than any other crop from drought, but what a change would it bring over your corn field, withering and twisting in the July heats, could you turn a stream of water upon its thirsting roots. Drought often shortens the crop of corn in particular fields, one quarter, one third, one half. There are few seasons in which irrigation would not greatly increase the crop. We throw out these suggestions, to incite our readers to look over their farms, and see what waste water can be turned to good account.

The irrigation of mowing lots from the wash of roads is so easy, that no farmer has an excuse for omitting it. Yet, even this easiest form of irrigation, and fertilizing is overlooked. A field, lying on the lower side of a descending highway, can be very much benefitted by opening culverts in the wall, for the passage of the water made by heavy rains. The wash of highways is valuable, not only for its water, but for the fertilizing materials it contains.

The soil of which the road is composed is ground into an exceedingly fine and impalpable powder, by the continual passage of animals and vehicles over it. The finest parts of this soil are carried off from descending roads, by every shower, and unless watched by the cultivator, will be landed in the adjacent swamp or pond, or thrown into the stone heap or briar hedge, at the foot of the hill. This fine dust also contains considerable portions of the droppings of horses and cattle, that are continually traveling over it. This, especially in the vicinity of cities and villages, renders the wash a good manure, that ought to be as carefully looked after as the contents of the barn yard. If conducted at short intervals upon the adjacent fields, it would keep them in good condition. It is by timely attention to these small items of economy, that the farmer succeeds in his business. Gather up the fragments that nothing be lost.—[Ed.

POTATOES—HOW PLANTED IN SOUTHERN NEW-JERSEY—CONDITION OF OTHER CROPS, &C.

From a correspondent's letter dated at Woodstown, Salem Co., N. J., May 20th, we make the following extracts:

The weather for the past and present week is all that the farmer could desire, though perhaps a fine, *warm* shower would be advantageous. The work of the present is chiefly planting potatoes—a crop much depended upon in some years, though the present low prices will have some influence upon the amount of surface planted this year. Two or three have finished this work, but the majority have the greater part of their planting yet to do.

The methods of preparing the soil, putting in the seed, &c., are various—the following three are the most common:

First—The ground is plowed to a good depth some four or five weeks previous to planting, thus allowing it time to settle so as to plow better the second time. At the time of planting, a coating of manure, say from 12 to 20 loads per acre, is spread evenly over the ground. From 10 to 14 loads of marl per acre are now spread over the manure, thus fitting the ground for the last plowing and the reception of the seed. The potatoes selected for planting are about the size of a hen's egg, and are cut in from two to four pieces, and dropped in every third furrow of this plowing. Some rake all the manure into the potato furrow, but this practice is going into disuse, each furrow being allowed the benefit of its own manure. I consider this method a very good one, and more expeditious than any other where the two manures are used.

Second.—The ground is first served with the manure and then plowed, after which it is marked off into rows three feet apart with the plow, and the potatoes dropped as before, covering first with marl and then with a furrow thrown over both.

Third.—The ground is prepared as in the second method, and the potatoes dropped in every third furrow, and a man follows with a horse and cart, and applies the marl.

Most farmers have planted their corn, but some who were particularly anxious to be *forward*, and who planted before the ground was sufficiently warm and dry, now have the pleasure of a second planting, thus giving their less aspiring neighbors an opportunity of finishing before them. Our corn, planted a week ago, is now coming above ground.

The Growing Crops.—Wheat has improved very much within the past month, but the crop cannot be more than an average. Grass is very promising, and if nothing unforeseen occurs to cut it short, there will be a heavy crop. Oats begin to thrive, they having had a stand still during the cold wet weather of the first of the month. More than an average amount were sown. Apple and other fruit trees bloomed out very freely, and there is a fair prospect of a good crop of all varieties. Many young fruit trees were either killed or very much injured by the severity of the past winter. PETIT.

TURNIP GROWING—A FARMER'S EXPERIENCE.

The importance of turnips as a field crop, and the approach of the season of planting, induces us to devote considerable space to articles on this subject. We give here the experience of Mr. Josiah Bennett, of Westmoreland, as communicated to the N. E. Farmer. Mr. B. says: Last spring I manured thoroughly one acre and five-eighths of ground and planted the same with corn; at my last hoeing I sowed my turnip seed broadcast, after having plowed lightly between my corn rows. The time of sowing was some time during the first week in July. In the fall I harvested from that field one hundred and nine bushels of the soundest corn which I have seen for many years, and quite late, just before the ground froze. I gathered in my turnip crop from the one and five-eighths acres, which measured, as I stored them away in the cellar, two hundred and twenty-six bushels. I had also two cart-loads of extra pumpkins on the land. I had another small spot of ground measuring seventy-one square rods, which I sowed to wheat; that I harvested sometime in the fore part of August, which, when threshed, measured ten bushels of good wheat. Immediately after the wheat was cut I turned under the stubble, and after smoothing the ground I mixed turnip seed with my grass seed, and sowed broadcast. I sowed the small field on the 15th of August. I gave this land a sprinkling of ashes at the time of sowing my last seed, and harvested from it seventy-four bushels of turnips, of the best quality that I ever saw, and they have so been considered by others who have used them for the table. My kind of turnip is the flat English. The principal use which I have made of my turnip crop has been feed for my cattle; I think much of the crop for that purpose. I consider it a great saving of fodder, and I have had some very fine stock which I have exhibited in various fairs, and nearly all the extra keeping of the same has been turnips, which I cut with a root cutter. The grass seed sown with the turnips came up very even, and was when small just shaded enough to preserve the root in a vigorous state, and when I last saw the grass before the snow fell I thought it looked the best and bid the fairest for a good crop the next season of any which I have ever had. I think land seeded in this way far better than to stock down in the Spring with oats, which I find a very exhausting crop.

In the season of 1854, I found toward the last of June, that I had a small portion of mowing land which was so bound out that there was no promise of a crop of hay, not even to be worth mowing. I plowed up ninety-two square rods of this land, and spread on it twelve loads of compost manure, about the 12th day of July. On the 25th day of July, '*wet or dry*,' I sowed my turnip seed, and harvested from that field three hundred bushels of turnips. I mixed my grass with the turnip seed as above stated. Last haying season I cut the finest crop of herd's grass on the same land, which I ever had from any other method of stocking down. The quantity of turnip seed sown by me is at the rate of one pound to the acre.

CORN—STARTING EARLY—PROTECTING.

The following hints are given by the Granite Farmer: The most sure way to have the seed come up, and do well, is first to manure and prepare the ground well—plant good seed, clean as it came from the cob. This never fails with me; all variations from this *have* failed under different circumstances.

To prevent the seed being destroyed by the hens.—The pig, with a full belly, will never root around; the hen, with a full crop, will not scratch the ground. Therefore—when my hens are disposed to *scratch*, I call them to the barn, and give them as much corn as they will eat, for which they always sing to me a merry tune, and lay a whole hat full of eggs.

To prevent crows from pulling corn.—I scatter corn in the field broadcast, which they feed upon and leave the seed. If I have too much company by my liberality, I soak the corn in strychnine and hot water. Last spring, after scattering half a bushel of corn soaked in this way, I picked up forty-two dead crows, and how many more went off feeling 'kind o' sick,' I am not able to state.

Wire and Grub worms are more difficult customers to deal with—for any poison used for their destruction, is always absorbed by the soil, which is a sure protection to them. I have never found a sure remedy for these pests; and can only secure my seed by planting enough for their wants and mine too, and if they get more than their share, I plant new hills a few inches from the old ones thus destroyed, and 'thin out' at second hoeing.

Those who are vain of fine dress are trying to be peacocks.

He who has a friend bears only half his own griefs.

A gem uncut is of no use; so a man untaught is stupid.

STATE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS 1856.

Name.	*Where Held.*	*Date.*
Tennesee,	Nashville.	June 4— 5
Vermont,	Burlington	Sept. 9—12
New-Jersey,	Newark	“ 10—12
Canada East,	Three Rivers	“ 16—18
Virginia,	Wheeling Island	“ 17—19
Ohio,	Cleveland	“ 23—26
Canada West	Kingston	“ 23—26
Am. Pomological Society	Rochester	“ 24—
Illinois	Alton	“ 30 Oct. 3
Michigan	Detroit	“ 30 “ 3
New-York	Watertown	“ 30 “ 3
Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	“ 30 “ 3
California	San Jose	Oct. 7— 9
Connecticut	New-Haven	“ 7—10
United States	Philadelphia	“ 7—10
Wisconsin	Milwaukie	“ 8—10
Iowa	Muscatine	“ 8—10
ew-Hampshire		“ 8—10
North Carolina	Raleigh	“ 14—17
Georgia	Atlanta	“ 20—23
Indiana	Indianapolis	“ 20—23
Maine		“ 28—31
Alabama	Montgomery	Nov. 11—14
South Carolina	Columbia	“ 11—14

The above list will be extended in our next issue, and a list of county exhibitions added. We shall be thankful for any information as to times and places of holding State and County Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibitions, throughout the country.

INQUIRIES ABOUT WESTERN AND SOUTH-WESTERN FARM LANDS.

Perhaps, on no single subject do we receive more letters of inquiry, than about the best locations at the West for Eastern farmers desiring to change their residence, and also for persons coming from Europe to settle in this country. We cannot undertake to reply to these letters in detail, or we should be under the necessity of adding to our office a "Western Land Department." Our series of articles in progress of publication headed "Do Eastern Farmers better their condition by going West," will develope some valuable information, and we shall willingly devote some portion of our space to the statements of those now residing at the West, if conveying reliable valuable information, and not written by those who have "an ax to grind." In this connection we refer to the advertisement of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, in another column.

Several inquire about Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Tennessee, &c. Here is a sample of their letters:

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

I should be obliged if I could obtain through the columns of your reliable journal, some trustworthy information respecting the lands and localities around, say Chatanooga, and other parts of East Tennessee. Is the climate good, healthy, and suitable for Northern men, or persons who have delicate lungs, or affections of the throat, to settle in? Are the ordinary winters much milder than what we usually experience in New-York or Connecticut, and are the summers much warmer? I should judge from the high situation, that the summer season there would not be hotter or more oppressive.

Is there any locality in that region that is preferable as a residence to another, taking into consideration its healthfulness, climate least changeable, and any other cause or reason to make it a desirable place to live in. Its nearness to markets for sale of farm produce, eligibility for farming, and what would pay best to raise in that locality. What is the best and cheapest way to reach East Tennessee, say from New-York or Philadelphia?

If there are any readers of the Agriculturist that can give the desired information, I, for one, should deem it a favor.

Respectfully yours,
GEO. DAVIS, New-York.

DO OUR EASTERN FARMERS BETTER THEIR CONDITION BY REMOVING TO THE WEST.

NUMBER THREE.

The *full* answer to this question must greatly depend upon the condition of the farmer *as he is* in the Eastern States. As a general rule, a man comfortably situated, on a good farm, in easy circumstances, thriving a little every year, in good society, and in the prime of life, seldom betters his condition *all round*, by pulling up stakes and going into a new country, where he must, with his family, become inured to a new climate, different modes of cultivation, new and strange society, associations, and all that sort of thing. It depends much also, on the *family* of the farmer, as to the policy or expediency of removing from an old home to a new one. If he have numerous children and a small farm, he may by its sale, and laying out its avails with judgment at the West, obtain much more land, and by the increased room for their labor, keep his sons about him, and so remain with, or near his children. This, indeed, is one of the great incentives for so many men with moderate means going to the West. They buy land cheap; by cultivation it rises in value, and they thus largely increase their possessions. Yet the increase of worldly goods is not, or should not be, the *sole* object of our toil and exertion in life. The enjoyments of life in a rational way as we go along is a thing to be considered. We have known families who had good homes in the old States, to sell out and go to the West, where they made good locations, so far as land and common advantages were concerned, but who, by sickness and death, became decimated, and amid new society and associations were literally strangers in a strange land ever afterwards. And yet we know many others, partly by their own good judgment, and partly by good luck—for there is *some* luck in the world—rapidly increased their fortunes by emigration.

The family proposing to emigrate should, in the first place, take a deliberate, accurate survey of their present condition where they are. If they are on a poor farm—hopelessly poor—where they can but just bring the year about, better to sell off their odd traps and leave it altogether, than to toil on for nothing. We have known men to stay on an old worthless place for a long life, and die poor at last, because they could not sell it, when half the labor applied elsewhere would have made them rich—a poor farm, with a naturally poor soil, not accessible to cheap manures is dear at a gift. Yet poor lands, near good markets, *with* cheap manures, have made many a farmer's fortune, and much quicker than by the purchase of new lands at the West. Large crops don't always pay over small crops. The market, its distance more or less, and the costs of getting products to them, govern the thing more surely. We know men who have bought the poor lands of New Jersey and Long Island—such lands as no one would take as a gift, if they lay in the Western States, and get rich on them. Their crops were not large, yet they brought high prices, and the results of their annual labors yielded good profits; while the man who had migrated to the West and bought cheap, rich lands, toiled on for years, just making both ends meet, with large crops, and barely living amid the greatest abundance, so far as agricultural produce was concerned.

Another thing: men emigrating to a new place, should well know into what kind of a neighborhood, or people they go. They should select such localities as are peopled by those of their own modes of thought, education, and association. Then they find their society agreeable. For an educated, intelligent family, to go into a neighborhood of ignorant, uneducated people, whose modes of life, habits, and thought, are widely different from their own, is a wretched sacrifice of all the mental and social enjoyments of life —a mistake hard to be rectified, and frequently fatal to all their future happiness. Hence, the value of colonization in the new States. We can point to towns in the Western States, first settled in colonies, with people of a like range of thought, habits, and education, which are almost half a century in advance of an adjoining town, in the value of their real estate, and all that makes life desirable to the cultivated mind. Every western traveler can see these differences as plainly as he can see the land before him.

There is, on the whole, no fixed rule to govern the expediency of leaving our old home for a new one. The man, or the family proposing it, should deliberately and intelligently survey his and their own present condition, not only in regard to his landed estate, but all the social advantages or disadvantages which surround them. If they resolve that they will remove, don't do it at a venture. Coolly and deliberately examine the region where you propose to go; look at its advantages, then weigh its disadvantages. Examine railroad routes, the market towns, the topographical situation of the country, its water, general health—everything in fact bearing upon human industry and its rewards, as well as the social condition, education of the people, and the institutions. Full half the misfortunes growing out of a new home, and a change of place, have arisen from a want of consideration, and examination in these particulars—a leap in the dark in fact. We would not discourage emigration under favorable circumstances. We know those who have in every way greatly increased their worldly fortunes and happiness in so doing; but we earnestly advise all who contemplate it to *be in no haste*, and *well consider* every subject connected with so momentous a revolution in their affairs, as that of leaving a good home for an untried one. It may settle the question of a whole life time of contentment, or of misery. We will speak of some States and localities in our next.—[ED.

DOG-BREAKING.

A work has just been published, which relates to dog-breaking. Our opinion is, that the best way to break a dog is to break his neck.

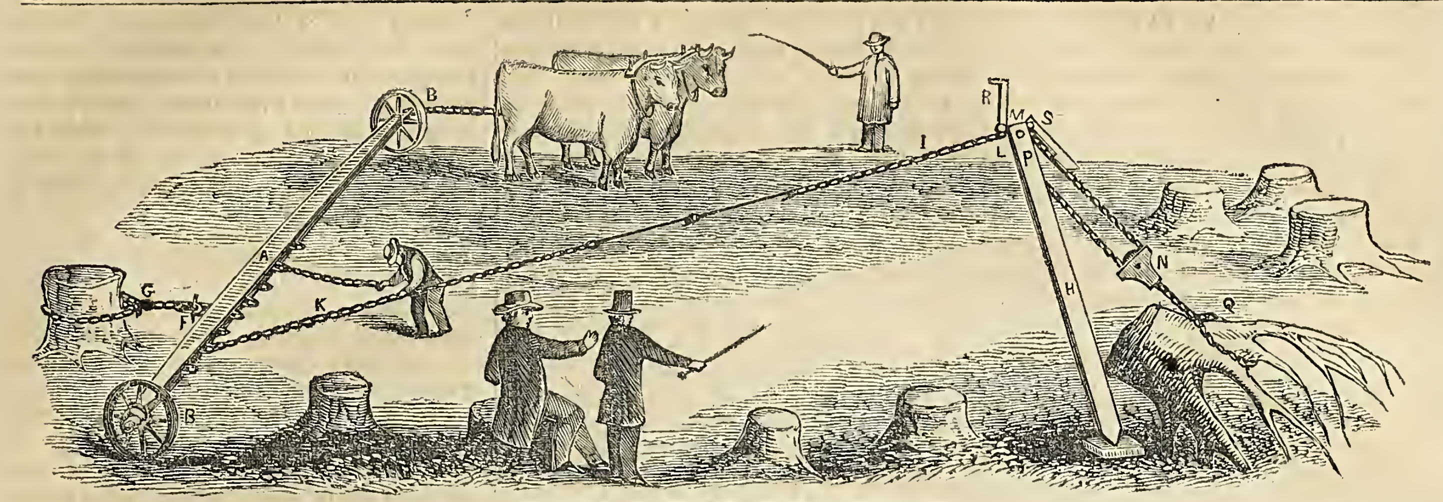
So says an exchange, and pretty nearly so say we. 'There are exceptions to all general rules' runs the adage, and so there are exceptions noted in *our* anti-dog-law creed—but not very many, as they go little farther than shepherd dogs, rat-terriers, and a very few of the Newfoundland and watch dogs. As if to give emphasis if not venom to these lines, just now there are half-a-dozen, more or less, of miserable worthless curs running at large in the street before our window. What they are good for, or were created for, it would puzzle the most acute investigator of natural history to determine, yet they are boarded and lodged by somebody—ten to one by those who can least afford it. We doubt not they are better cared for than their owners' children. Such is usually the case.

Here it is again. Just as we finished the above sentence, a gentleman from 'up the Hudson River' called to say that if any body wants a pure bred Southdown Buck and Ewe, he can supply them at the cost in England. He would on no account part with these fine animals "but for the *dogs*." He says "he has to put them in a close room 365¼ nights in a year, and watch them or keep them near the house by day, all on account of the *dogs*, which have put an end to sheep-raising in his neighborhood."

Just so it is over half the country, and this too, when sheep and lambs of fair quality are selling at $5 to $10 per head, in this city to-day. We are not "rabid" though we sometimes get slightly 'mad' when we think only of the millions of curs, *worthless* curs, running at large in this country. Perhaps half a dozen scars left on our body by dog-teeth, have something to do with our "feelings." Perhaps ever so many hundreds of dollars out of pocket by sheep-killers slightly affect us. However that may be, we are dog-killers *con amore*. We keep on hand a bottle of strychnine, and pieces of meat to put it in. We have a capital shooting-iron, that never fails when in our hands. The dog that visits our premises, "muzzled or unmuzzled," may want help to get away. A fair warning this, to dogs that can read. Those that can't must depend upon their "owners," if so be that any one of them knows how to read, and yet does not know better than to own a dog, or at least to let him run round the neighborhood.

What we *practice* we preach to others.—[ED.

"Youre doing a *smashing* business," as the gardener said to the hailstones.



WILLIS' PATENT STUMP PULLER.

Above we present a cut of a Stump Puller which has made some *noise*, and according to report has done considerable *execution*. We have not seen the machine in actual operation, but have examined a working model, and should judge from this that it will do the work effectually and economically. For particulars see the advertisement.

OUR WATERLOO CORRESPONDENCE.

CORN CULTIVATION—HOW TO GET HORACE GREELEY'S $50 PREMIUM—THE NEW-YORK STATE SOCIETY'S PREMIUMS TOO COMPLICATED—NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

[We are sorry the letter below did not reach us in time for the May issue. However, several of the hints on Corn Culture are yet in season. The criticisms upon the State Society's Premiums have weight, but we are right glad of a movement in the right direction, and we confidently hope that a number of those who can afford it, are already preparing to compete for the Premium and that much good will result. We are always glad to hear from our aged correspondent S. W. (*N'Importe.*) We put him down as one of the most thorough go-ahead, reasoning practical farmers of the country.—ED.]

Editor American Agriculturist:

While Horace Greely offers the very tempting premium of $50 to the farmer's boy who will grow the best acre of corn the current season, our State Society, by the multiplicity of the costly experiments required to take a premium of $75, cannot fail to defeat the end it is so desirable to attain, to wit: to ascertain the peculiar manurial requirements of our great indigenous Cereal, Indian Corn? Would it not have been far more judicious to have confined the first year's experiments to something less than 19 quarter of an acre plots; each to be manured entirely different, the one from the other, except the 1st and the 19th plots, which are to have no manure at all. I would ask how far will the $75 premium go towards paying for the manurial amendments required by the programme. What dependance can be made on experiments begun under the stimulus of such a paltry premium; no poor man certainly can attempt it, but if he does, his experiments must be necessarily loose and unreliable. It was not thus that the great and important Rothamsted experiments were made, to the truth and correctness of which even the critical Liebig bears unwilling testimony; and their undoubted correctness has been subsequently corroborated by the experiments of the late indefatigable Dr. Pusey. One of these experiments alone, that of ascertaining the true chemical requirements of the wheat plant, must have cost thousands of dollars, but the result which will grow out of this discovery, is yet to save millions to the wheat growing farmer, by enabling him to treat his wheat fallow with the right instead of the wrong manure.

Had Mr. Greely given out his generous premium last fall, in time for the boy to plow and trench in deeply plenty of long unwashed stable manure, the competition for his premium would probably have been greater, as no heavy soil can be prepared in the Spring for a premium corn crop the same season, and a soil must be at least as aluminous as a Mississippi bottom, to insure a maximum crop in a dry season. An acre of well drained River or creek intervale ,will now probably take Mr. Greely's premium, because there nature has done the preliminary work, in depositing a finely comminuted soil, rich in organic matter, which needs no chemical amendment that stable manure or Peruvian guano will not supply, and no mechanical aid that cannot be supplied by the plow and harrow in the Spring.

It is passing strange that there are so many *soi disant* farmers who dispute the efficacy of fall plowing in ameliorating a clay loam. Such a soil, if ridged with spade or plow in the fall, is like an ash heap in the Spring, while that which is thrown up after the frost is out of the ground in the Spring will be hard to reduce to a pulverulent state, even if it is more than two-thirds sand and vegetable matter.

I have grown corn to a small extent and tried many experiments in its culture for more than 30 consecutive years. In the extra hot drought of 1854 every farmer's corn leaves were rolled up like whips, while mine on a clay loam did not even curl, owing to the trenching in long manure late the previous fall. Taking off the suckers enables the corn to perfect its ears nearly two week's earlier, besides remedying the evil of close planting.

For a premium crop I would plant in drills 3 1-2 feet apart, and thin out to 9 inches in the drill; if the suckers are not taken off it should stand a foot apart in the drill. In hills plant 3 feet each way, 3 or 4 stalks to the hill, these to stand 2 or 3 inches apart in the hill; cultivate as level as possible, and use no plow after the corn is knee high, but the hoe or cultivator often. In a hot season, Ohio small cob dent corn would give the greatest yield, but the stalk is inedible and it has no suckers.

It is now well ascertained by long, careful, and varied experiments, that the specific manure for the wheat plant is nitrogen, in its compound of ammonia or nitric acid. But we have every reason to believe that Indian Corn delights in a soil as rich in carbon as in nitrogen, and we have yet to learn from well instituted careful experiments, whether this carbonaceous matter in the soil, is necessary to the Corn plant as a source of carbonic acid, or only as a loosener and an absorbent to aid the soil in retaining that continued moisture required by the astoundingly rapid growth of this King among our cereals. I have often had to remark during the drought of a hot summer, that the carbonaceous manure placed deep and now decomposing in the soil, while it supplied both ammonia and carbonic acid to the roots of the plant, it also by the water it had retained, also performing the office of irrigation.

Thanks to the Farmers and villagers of our South towns, as intelligent as they are generous and wealthy, for their enterprize in obtaining a charter for an Agricultural College in that town, as beautiful and rurally matchless as its name, Ovid, is poetic and classical. May the experimental farm of that Institution be to the Empire State, if not to the whole Union, what Rothamsted has been and now is to England; then we may not only hope to learn the physical and chemical requirements of Indian Corn, but also the secret why in a soil rich in carbon, the corn ear and stalk alike increase, when the wheat plant on the same soil will only increase in straw at the expense of the cereal product. S. W.

WATERLOO, May 11, 1856.

CORN—THE PRINCIPAL VARIETIES DESCRIBED.

We give below a description of the several kinds of Indian Corn more generally cultivated. This chapter will be valuable to preserve for future reference. It is mostly compiled from the Transactions of the New-York State Agricultural Society.

The principal varieties of Indian Corn, cultivated in the United States, are distinguished by the number of rows or grains in the cob, and the color, shape, and size of the kernels. They may be classified as follows:

YELLOW CORN.

The colors of the varieties coming under this head are dependent mainly on the shades of the oil, as seen through the epidermis or hull.

1. *Golden Sioux or Northern Flint Corn.*—Derived from the Sioux Indians, in Canada; having a large cob, rather short as to length, with twelve rows of moderate sized grains, abounding in oil, and is regarded as one of the best varieties for fattening animals, or for human food. By skilful tillage, 130 bushels have been raised to the acre, weighing 9,216 lbs. in the ear; when dry, 75 lbs. of ears gave a bushel when shelled. Several valuable hybrid varieties have been produced between the Sioux and King Phillip, the Gourd-seed and the Sioux.

2. *King Phillip or Eight-rowed Yellow Corn.*—So called after the celebrated Indian chief of the Wampanoags of that name, from which tribe the seed was obtained. The ears, which contained only eight rows, are longer than those of the Golden Sioux, and it will yield about the same quantity of oil. It is a hardy plant, which belongs to a high latitude, grows to about nine feet in height, stalks small, ears from ten to fourteen inches in length, much esteemed in New England as a substantial article of food, where it has been cultivated from times anterior to the landing of the pilgrims.

3. *Canada Corn, or Eighteen-rowed Yellow.*—This corn, which is smaller, earlier, and more solid than any of the preceding, contains more oil than any other variety, except the rice corn, and the pop-corn, properly so called. It is highly valuable for fattening poultry, swine, &c., and is grown by many in gardens for early boiling or roasting, when grown. Notwithstanding it is very prolific in ears, it is seldom planted in fields, except in regions where the larger kinds will not thrive.

4. *Dutton Corn.*—A variety first brought into notice in 1818, by Mr. Samuel Dutton, of the State of Vermont. The ears of corn from which it was originally selected, on an average were from eight to twelve inches long, and contained from twelve to eighteen rows. The cob is larger, and sometimes grows to the length of fourteen or fifteen inches, but the grain is so compact upon it that two bushels of small ears have yielded five pecks of shelled corn, weighing 62 lbs. to the bushel. With proper management, an acre of ground will yield 100 to 120 bushels. As it abounds in oil, gives a good yield, and ripens early, it has always been a favorite variety for culture in the Northern States.

5. *Southern Big Yellow Corn.*—The cob of this corn is thick and long, the grain much wider than deep, and the rows unite with each other; their sides fall off almost to a point; this gives the outside ends of the grain a circular form, which imparts to the ear an appearance somewhat resembling a fluted column. The grain contains less oil and more starch than the Northern flint kinds, yet its outward texture is somewhat flinty, solid and firm. It comes rather late into maturity, affords an abundant yield, and is much used for fattening animals; mixed with either the white gourd varieties, the yellow gourd seed is produced which is often mistaken for an original form.

6. *Southern Small Yellow Corn.*—The ears of this sort are more slender, as well as shorter, than the last named variety; the grains are smaller, though of the same form; of a deep yellow, more firm and flinty, and contain an abundance of oil, which renders it more valuable for the purpose of shipping, or for feeding to poultry or swine. Although it is less productive than the big yellow, it ripens earlier, and consequently is sooner out of the reach of the autumn frosts.

WHITE CORN.

The varieties which constitute this division are exceedingly variable, both as regards thhir composition and size, as well as in their yield and times of coming to maturity.

1. *Rhode Island White Flint Corn.*—The grains of this variety are about the size and shape of those of the Tuscarora corn, but differ from them in containing an abundance of a transparent and colorless oil, which may be easily seen through their clear pellucid hulls. The farinaceous parts of the grains are white, and, as the quantity of oil which they contain is large, the flour or meal is more substantial as an article of food, and less liable to ferment and become sour. In Rhode Island, where it produces an abundant yield, it is a favorite grain, and stands in high repute for human food.

2. *Southern White Flint Corn.*—The kernels of this variety are considerably smaller than those of the preceding, and much resemble them in shape; but they are more firm and solid, contain more oil, and consequently more valuable for feeding poultry and swine, and for human food. Although the cob is smaller in proportion to the size of the ears, the yield per acre is less abundant, and consequently it is but very little grown.

3. *Dutton White Flint Corn.*—A variety not differing materially from the Yellow Dutton Corn, except in the color of its kernel.

4. *Early Canadian White Flint Corn.*—Cultivated principally for early boiling or roasting while green.

5. *Tuscarora Corn.*—A variety obtained from the Tuscarora Indians in the State of New-York. The ears contain from twelve to sixteen rows of grains, which are nearly as deep as they are broad, of a dead whitish color on the extreme end, composed entirely within of pure, white dextrine and starch, except the germs. As it contains neither gluten nor oil, it may be profitably employed in the manufacture of starch. It is much softer and better food for horses than the flinty kinds, and, if used before it becomes sour, it may be converted into an excellent bread. It is also an excellent variety for boiling, when green, or in the milky state.

6. *White Flint Corn.*—The ears of this variety contain twelve rows of rather white, roundish, thick grains, which are filled with a snowy white flour, composed principally of starch, but does not contain either gluten or oil. It is much used in some parts of the country, particularly New-Jersey, for grinding up with buckwheat, mixed in proportions of four or five to one of corn, in order to improve the color and other qualities of the buckwheat flour. As it possesses similar properties to the preceding variety, it may be profitably employed for the same purpose. It is also an excellent variety for boiling, when green.

7. *Virginia White Seed Corn.*—The ears of this corn, which are not very long, nor is the cob so long as those of the big white or yellow flint, contains from twenty-four to thirty-six rows of very long, narrow grains, so soft and open in texture that they will not bear transportation by sea, unless they are previously kiln dried, or completely excluded from the moist air. These grains at their extreme ends, are almost flat, and grow so closely together, from the cob to the surface, they produce a greater yield than any other variety, in proportion to the size of the ears. They contain more starch and less gluten and oil than those of the flint kinds, and from their softness they serve as better food for horses, but are less nourishing to poultry and swine. The color of this variety is almost white (unless it has been crossed with other kinds) which may be invariably known by a small indenture in the ends of the grain, when perfectly dried. The oily and glutinous parts of the Virginia gourd seed always occur on the sides of the elongated grains, while the starch projects quite through to their summits, and by contraction in drying, produces the pits or depressions peculiar to their ends. This variety is later ripe, though more productive than any other kind.

8. *Early Sweet Corn.*—This variety was introduced into Massachusetts in 1779, by Capt. Richard Bagnall, of Plymouth, from the country bordering on the Susquehannah, on his return from the expedition against the tribes of the six nations, under the command of Gen. Sullivan. There are two kinds of this corn: one with the cob red, and the other white. The ears are short and usually contain eight rows, the grains of which, when mature, are of a light color and become shrivelled, and appear as if they were unripe. It contains an unusually large proportion of the phosphates, and a considerable quantity of sugar and gum, though but little starch. It is extensively cultivated in the vicinity of cities for culinary purposes, and serves as a delicious food, when boiled green. Large quantities of this corn are prepared by boil-

ing and scalding, when green, separating the corn from the cob, and kiln-drying by the Shakers, for winter use. It is also preserved in its green state in tin cans, hermetically sealed. Preserved in this manner, you have apparently a fresh dish of corn at any season of the year.

Stowell's Evergreen Sweet Corn.—This is a valuable variety, and is by many esteemed the very best cultivated, especially for green fodder. It was in bad odor for a time, owing to its having been in the hands of certain speculators, who charged enormous prices for the seed, but it is now so abundant that it can be obtained generally, and at reasonable rates.

9. *Rice Corn.*—A small variety with small conical ears, the kernels terminating in short points, which give it the appearance of a burr; the kernels of the size and shape something like rice. It contains more oil and less starch than any other kind, and when ground, its meal cannot be made into bread alone, but is dry like sand. From its oily nature and peculiar size, this corn is peculiarly adapted for feeding poultry.

10. *Pearl Corn.*—Commonly called popcorn, from the fact of its being used for popping or parching, large quantities of which are sold at the railroad stations to the passengers, throughout the country. The ears of this variety are small; the grains are round, of various shades of color, the white of a pearlish appearance, and contain with the rice corn, more oil and less starch, than any other variety. Its flavor is pleasant, when parched, for which purpose it is generally used, and it forms an excellent dish when hulled and boiled.

11. *Chinese Tree Corn.*—This variety was first brought into notice by Grant Thorburn, of Astoria, near New-York, some 12 or 15 years since. The origin of this corn, it is said, was a kernel found in a chest of tea, and from that single one was propogated. It is a pure white variety; a very handsome ear about ten inches long; ten rows; grain very closely set; long and wedge form, well filled out to the end of the cob; some of the grains slightly indented. One peculiarity of this corn is, the ears grow on the end of the branches, hence its name, "tree corn." It is said to yield from one-fourth to one-third more than the common varieties. When ground into meal it is handsomer and better flavored than the common varieties of white corn. It is also an excellent variety for making hominy, samp, &c. There are generally two ears on a stalk, and often three; sometimes there have been found four ears on a stalk, although the last mentioned number is rare.

There are many other varieties of corn, but the foregoing embrace pretty much all the varieties worthy of cultivation.

◆

Boiling Molasses.—When molasses is used in cooking, it is a very great improvement to boil and skim it before you use it. It takes out the raw taste, and makes it almost as good as sugar. Where molasses is used much for cooking, it is well to prepare one or two gallons in this way at a time.

MILLET—ONE MAN'S TRIAL AND WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT IT.

Having with many others suffered from the severe drouth of 1854, in my hay crop, I was induced last Spring to procure half a bushel of millet seed. When preparing my ground for oats, I reserved one acre and a quarter for the millet. After corn planting, say about the 1st of June, I plowed the said ground again, harrowed it down, sowed my millet seed, harrowed thoroughly again, and quietly waited the result. Well, after a while the young sprouts made their appearance, looking very much like what is generally called pigeon grass. But after securing my wheat and oat harvests, I had a heavy crop to cut on my millet ground. Leaving a small piece which I had sown thinner than the rest to ripen for seed, I mowed the field and cured it as clover should always be cured—in small cocks. When sufficiently dry, I carted *five heavy loads* to my barn, and my horses, cows and sheep have thanked me many times for my first experiment with millet. They have all eaten it readily and greedily, and I am so highly pleased with it, that I shall sow much more this Spring.

The time for sowing should be as indicated above, when the weather is warm enough to make corn readily—from the 1st to the 15th of June—and the time of harvesting comes after the rush of other harvests is over, thus accommodating the farmer, at both periods when it wants attention. It yields seed bountifully, which makes a flour very palatable for man, and is decidedly nutritious for every animal not forgetting the fowls—they are very fond of it. I say then to my brother farmers, try a piece of millet, and I am confident that if you try it once, you will again.—Ohio Cultivator.

ANOTHER MAN'S EXPERIENCE AND OPINION OF MILLET.

Since the above was in type we have found the following, furnished to the Rural New Yorker by Mr. Thomas B. Lord, of East Bethany, N. Y. These two articles, together with the one in the *May* Agriculturist, furnish pretty complete information respecting this crop. Mr. Lord says:

I have raised millet for the last five years, chiefly for experiment. Having become convinced of its value, I last year sowed twelve acres; an acre or two was too wet, and produced nothing; the remainder was a good crop, and yielded twenty-two bushels of seed and three or four tuns of straw, to the acre. My experience has proved that it would yield from twenty to twenty-five bushels of seed and three to four tuns of straw per acre. The seed is worth nearly as much as corn to feed. The straw is worth, after threshing, about two-thirds as much as timothy hay, is eaten by cattle or sheep more readily than hay, and if passed through a straw cutter I think it would be fully equal to it. I fed a flock of sheep last winter on millet straw after threshing, without grain—a part of which flock I sold in February, and a part recently, for the butcher. I have also fed it to milch cows with good success, the butter being nearly as yellow as when they run to grass.

The soil best adapted to millet is a moist muck, but it will do nearly if not equally as well, on sward or stubble. Time of sowing, last of May or first of June. Quantity of seed, if designed to ripen, twelve quarts per acre; if designed to be cut for fodder before ripening, I would sow half a bushel. It may be cut with a grass scythe, and cured like hay, or with a cradle (if the fingers are well secured,) and after laying a day or two, bound and set in stooks.

One of my neighbors raised last season thirty bushels per acre, and fed the straw to his cattle and some young horses. He informed me the other day that he never raised a crop which did him as much good as his millet. Another neighbor has raised it for two years and fed it to his horses, and he tells me that his horses would perform the same work with half the grain that they did when fed on hay. A year ago last August, not having pasture, I fed green millet to my working oxen during seeding time. They ate it more readily than green corn stalks, and less than half the ground would supply them. They worked hard and gained flesh.

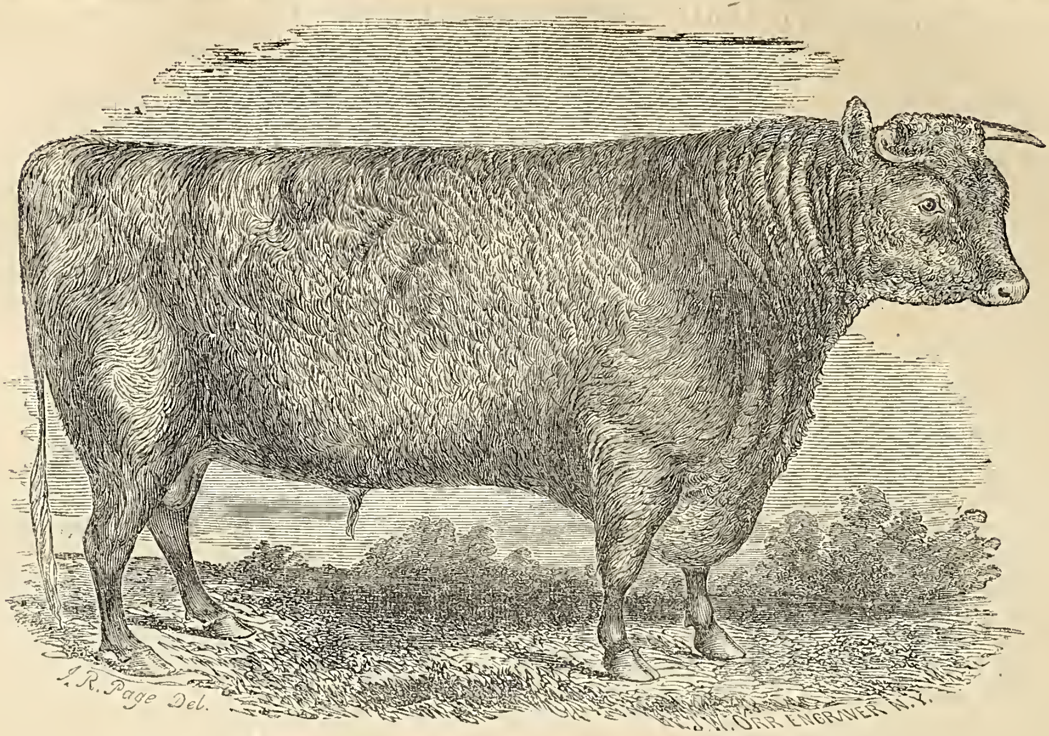
THE GRASSHOPPERS—WHERE THEY COME FROM.

We have heard and told some pretty hard grasshopper stories; one of the "last" was about those in Chautauque county, N. Y., who ate up every green thing, and according to our informant, one of them sitting upon a stump as he passed, actually asked him for a 'chaw' of tobacco he had in his mouth. Here is the very last, however, taken from the Franklin (Tenn.) Review. We give full credit. That paper says:

Our young friend R. H. Hudgens, who resides upon big Harpeth, six or seven miles above Franklin, brought into our office on Monday an apple (we don't know what else to call it,) grown upon a hickory tree, in the hollow of which were myriads of very small grasshoppers. He was fishing on the river and found the balls or apples growing upon the tree, and on opening one of them, he found it inhabited by thousands upon thousands of these little troublesome creatures.

To Prevent Cows from Holding up their Milk.—The following, though going the rounds credited to another paper, appeared first in the Agriculturist, a year or two since. It will bear repeating:—One of the best methods to prevent cows from holding up their milk, is to feed them at the time of milking. If this is done they will give down their milk freely. But if you neglect to feed them they will hold it up so that it is almost impossible to get any from them. Try the experiment of feeding them at milking.

"Rogers," said Cook one day to the wit, "how do you contrive to infuse so much *iron*-y into your epistolary compositions?" "I find not the least difficulty in that," replied Sam, "for I always write with a *steel* pen."


J. R. Page Del.
N. Orr Engraver N.Y.

COMET, [162.]

Calved January, 1851. Bred by Ambrose Stevens; the property of Lindley Brothers, of West Meriden, Conn. Sire, Albert, (2); grand-sire, Baronet, (6); dam, Curly, (610); by Tremayne, (321); grandam, Young Curly, (99); by Young Sillifant, (121); great-grandam, Curly, (95), by a son of Forester, (46); great-great-grandam, Tulip, bred by Richard Merson, of Brinsworthy, Devonshire. This animal was calved soon after the arrival of his dam here.

MILK FEVER IN COWS.

RESULTS OF EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Your correspondent at Stamford, C. W., desires information as to the best method of treating this disease. My experience has been somewhat limited, being confined entirely to my own small stock of cows. I will give it, however, because it goes to confirm the views expressed by Mr. Lewis F. Allen, as published in your last number, and as corroborative testimony, therefore, may be considered of some value.

For nearly thirty years I have kept cows, always selecting the best milkers, and during the first few years of my experience, I lost several fine cows from this disease, which died from three to six days after bringing a calf.

Some sixteen years ago, I procured a young cow of the short-horned breed from the hand of Mr. Lewis F. Allen, which proved to be an extraordinary milker, both as to quantity and quality. From this cow I have raised several, crossing with the Ayreshire, Hereford, and native, all of which, save one, proved to be good milkers, and all very liable to this disease, and it was not until I had lost one of this stock from milk fever, that I learned that in this as well as other matters, "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure." So far as my experience goes, none but good milkers, such as secrete large quantities of milk before or immediately after calving, are much subject to the disease. After ten years I employed a farm laborer, a German by birth, who in his 'fatherland' had large experience in the management of milch cows, and to his care I committed mine. His mode of managing them, immediately before and after calving, was somewhat as follows:

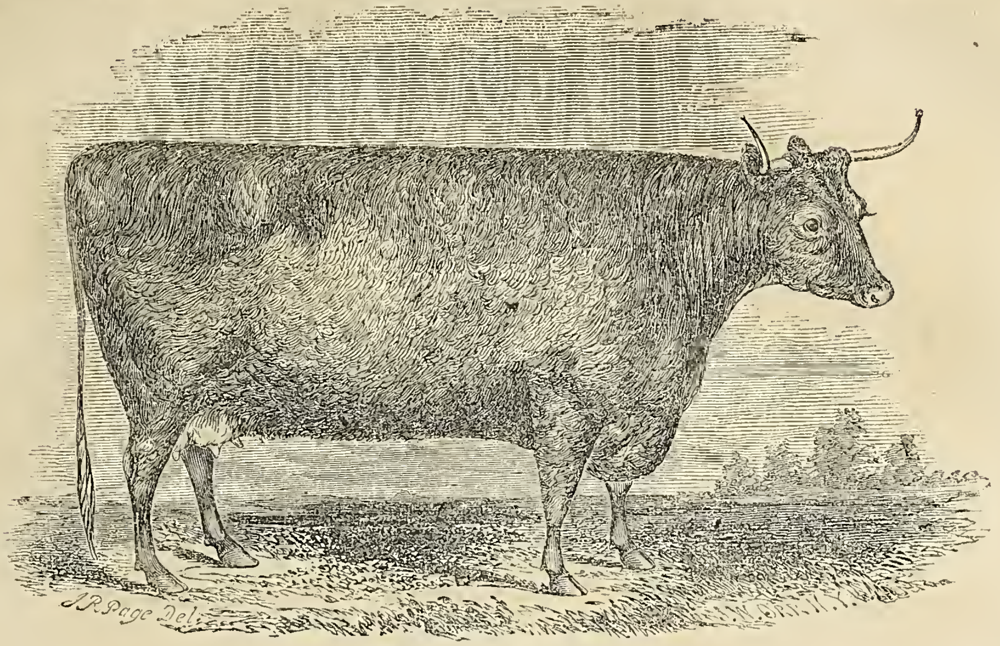
Most of my cows secreted large quantities of milk for say two weeks before calving, especially if it occurred after the grass had got a good start in the spring. These he would milk as often as once in two days for a week or two before calving, as circumstances seemed to require. After the calf was brought forth, he was very particular to prevent the cow from eating the after-birth, and for this purpose I have known him to sit up and watch all night. When the calf had taken its first meal, which it will do as soon as able to stand upon its feet, he would milk the cow perfectly clean, repeating it at least three times a day for three, four or more days, at the same time rubbing the udder with lard to prevent inflammation. After milking the cow the first time, he would give her a pailful of tepid water to drink, with perhaps a pint of corn meal, and a small handful of oil meal stirred into the water; this, with a small lock of good hay, if before grass, would be all the sustenance she would get for twenty-four hours. From that time he would gradually increase the amount and frequency of the food and drink, always taking the chill from the water for two or three days, until in the course of a week or ten days, she would be able to have full feed. If the cow should not come in until turning out to pasture, he would give the tepid mush as before stated, otherwise have the cow to regulate her own diet from the pasture.

My cows have been treated in this manner ever since with entire success, and exemption from the milk fever.

Buffalo, May 16, 1856. O. A.

A FARMER'S WIFE ON CHEESE-MAKING.

To make good cheese, there are several rules to be observed: first, everything used in the business should be kept as sweet and clean as possible. The night's milk should be strained in tin or brass kettles, and hung in a sweet, cool place, as milk will absorb impurities. In the morning it should be warmed and mixed with the morning's milk in your tub or whatever you make your cheese in. When ready for the rennet, the temperature should be from 80° to 84°. Put in sufficient rennet to come in 40 or 50 minutes; cover warm to prevent the cream from rising. When the curd will not adhere to your finger, then cut it with a long knife several times across; let it stand fifteen minutes; then take your dipper and turn the curd gently from top to the bottom; let it remain fifteen minutes longer, and break carefully with your hands. Place the strainer over and let the curd settle; then dip off some to warm to a natural heat. Dip off also some of the cold whey; turn on the warm and stir it with your dipper slowly. Repeat this several times. To prevent the curd settling together, it should be stirred and broken carefully and often; the temperature should be from 100° to 110°. In the course of two hours from the time you commenced warming the whey, when you can squeeze some of the curd in your hand, and it seems cooked and dry, it will do to dip into your drainer. It should then be stirred carefully to prevent adhering together, but should not be squeezed or handled roughly. The whey should work off clean, as it is very easy to waste the best part of the cheese by being in a hurry. It should strain very dry and get cool; then add five tea-cups of Liverpool



FAIRY, [696.]

Calved in 1851; bred by George Shapland, of Oakford, (Eng.); imported by R. Linsley, in 1852. Sire, Baron, (4); grandsire, Baronet, (6); dam, Forester Cow, (735), by a Bull bred by Mr. Merson, and sold to Mr. Tremayne; grandam bred by Mr. Dee, by Forester, (46.) The property of Linsley Brothers, West Meriden, Conn. This cow and her antecedents are very superior milkers.

salt to one hundred pounds of curds, stirring well in. I always sift my salt before using it. It is now ready to be put into the hoop. Let it stand half an hour before pressing. Then press lightly at first, adding to the pressure to make it firm and solid. After pressing four or five hours, it should be turned and closed; then press till the next day's cheese is ready for the hoop.

I get my cheese into the hoop about noon, allowing half a day to make a cheese. If the weather is cold, the cheese should be set by a fire to cure, as it will grow bitter standing in a cold room. There is no need of greasing the outside of a cheese which is cased. Here in Vermont we use dairy-stoves for making cheese; they are most convenient and save much labor.

I will make a few remarks on preparing rennets for mild cheese. The rennet should be one year old, as it will fetch more cheese at that age. Dairying people here kill their calves at four days old; drain out the whey from the curd, then add as much salt as there is curd; put it back into the rennet, and put them into little bags made of cotton cloth, each one separate; tie them tight and hang in a dry place to cure. The bag prevents insects working in the rennets and injuring them. When wanted for use, steep three rennets in two pails of cold water ten or twelve days; then strain it off into a jar and it is ready for use. Add salt enough to have it always in the bottom of your jar, as many people spoil a whole dairy by using rancid rennet.—Prairie Farmer.

Scratching Pole.—It is related of the Rev. Sidney Smith that when on his farm, each cow and calf, and horse and pig, were in turn visited, and fed and patted, and all seemed to welcome him; he cared for their comforts as he cared for the comforts of every living being around him. He used to say "I am for all cheap luxuries, even for animals; now all animals have a passion for scratching their backbones; they break down your gates and palings to effect this. Look! there is my universal scratcher, a sharp-edged pole, resting on a high and low post, adapted to every hight, from a horse to a lamb. Even the Edinburg Reviewer can take his turn; you have no idea how popular it is. I have not had a gate broken since I put it up. I have it in all my fields."

THREE DAILY MILKINGS DON'T PAY.

There is no doubt, we think, that cows give more milk for being milked three times instead of twice a day. The fact has been frequently tested by experiment. So a cow milked once a day will give less than if milked twice, and may be 'dried off,' by lengthening the period between the times of milking. Frequency and regularity are required to get the *maximum* of which a cow is capable. Why three times a day is not the rule, is not that there would not be a larger flow of milk, but because, ordinarily, the increase would be counterbalanced by the trouble. To bring a cow from a distant pasture on a hot summer's day, for the purpose, would probably not be advisable, but when she is readily at hand, it would be otherwise. As to the *philosophy* of the matter, it is the universal law of supply answering to demand. In the spiritual world, 'he that seeketh findeth;' in the natural, it is not otherwise. And in both, the supply is proportioned to the *urgency* of the demand. The mother offers a full breast to her suckling, and as his necessities compel him to 'seek' his food there, the fountain never fails. When he begins to munch his crust, and by degrees seek less diligently his nourishment there, the supply gradually falls off, and finally ceases with the demand. There is 'philosophy in milking cows,' as 'there is reason in roasting eggs.'—American Farmer.

Lawn, Orchard, Garden, &c.

LAWNS.

There are thousands of miniature lawns in the front and rear of houses in this city and vicinity, varying in size from a few square feet to several acres, and yet, out of the whole of them, how rare it is to find a single one well kept. The greatest fault generally in the management, or rather, we should say *mismanagement* of lawns, is, they are not mowed sufficiently often. To make the grass grow thick and fine like fur on an animal, it should be cut at least as often as twice a month. In England they frequently cut their finest lawns once a week.

It is better to mow a lawn in the afternoon or just before a shower, and as soon as cut, the grass should be carefully raked off, and the surface then rolled with an iron roller. Some always lightly sweep the lawn after mowing, and it occasionally requires scratching over with the sharp teeth of an iron rake. We have known this done with good effect as often as twice a month. If any bare spot is then found, it should be sown with fresh seed raked in. It is a good plan also to water the lawn after mowing, with a solution of guano water at the rate of one or two ounces to a gallon of water. A light top dressing of fine bone dust or ashes is very good, or a compost of well rotted manure or muck—though these last are better for a late Autumn top dressing to remain on all winter; slops from the chamber or kitchen diluted and spread on are excellent.

In preparing a lawn, the ground should be first trenched or plowed a foot and a half to two feet deep—three feet deep would be still better. This loosens the soil so that the roots of the grass can strike deep into the earth, and prevents its suffering in a drouth. We have known lawns thus prepared to remain green and fresh, and constantly producing an abundant growth of grass during the hottest, driest summers, while others not so deeply plowed, and the same kind of soil, were parched up and the grass as brown as in midwinter.

After plowing, the ground should be very finely harrowed, from two to four bushels of grass seed sown to the acre, and then rolled smooth with an iron roller. It is a great mistake not to sow a superabundance of grass seed. By doing this you keep out the weeds, and the grass covers the surface thick and fine at once. As soon as it is up three or four inches, don't be afraid to cut it or keep cutting it often as advised above. Some fear to do this, thinking it will not take root so well: but the contrary is the case, as we have proved from long experience in the management of lawns.

We need not add that the soil should be made clean and thoroughly enriched before sowing the seed, and be kept rich thereafter by frequent top dressings of guano, bone dust, ashes, muck and manure, or a compost of a part or all of them, though guano should never be used at the same time with ashes, lime, or other alkalies.—[Ed.

MICE—THEIR EXTENSIVE RAVAGES IN ORCHARDS AND NURSERIES—WHAT SHALL BE DONE?

A friend in Western New-York writes us, that the mice girdled his fruit trees so badly the past winter, as to ruin nearly two thirds of them. He had over sixty acres of orcharding in fine bearing condition. In the nurseries and forests they have been equally destructive. The same calamity has been experienced in Western Michigan and some other parts of the country, where they have never suffered to any great extent before.

Let any of our readers who can, suggest a remedy for these pests. Field mice occasionally swarm like the locusts of Egypt over the land, and if the winter happens to be a deeply snowy one, woe to the fruit trees! Is there a *wholesale* way of destroying these mice?

Since the above was put in type (three weeks ago) we have received a 'hat full' of letters from every part of the country, complaining of the same matter, and all asking, "What shall be done with the mice?" It is too late to do anything now, but we will call up the subject next Autumn, and throw into a single article all the hints and suggestions we can gather in the meantime. We defer our Clermont correspondent's letter to that time, and also ask for all the information that can be given by our readers generally. —[Ed.

BLACKBERRY VINES KILLED IN KENTUCKY.

We are sorry to learn the following from the Louisville, (Kentucky,) Courier:

Competent judges inform us that the blackberry crop in this vicinity, will prove a total failure this season. The cold of last winter killed many of the vines and all the fruit buds. The failure of no crop of fruit will be more regretted than that of the blackberry. It is one of our best, most healthful and most delicious fruit, and rarely fails us, being capable of withstanding drouth and extreme wet to a wonderful degree. It had, however, to succumb to the bitter weather that visited us about Christmas and remained so long with us.

ECONOMY IN THE USE OF LAND.

Editor American Agriculturist:

When by chance so placed that I can get sight of the small plots, as well as the city lots of ground that border the numerous new villages on the line of the Harlem and Hudson River Railroad—also those situated on the out skirts of this city and Harlem, and notice the vast aggregate of surface without tree or shrub, choice plant, or fine vegetable, I can not help exclaiming to myself, "What a want of economy in the use of land!" What a loss of comfort, of pleasure, of income, from bad management. I wish to address myself at once to the occupants and owners of these small, yet very valuable plots of ground. Why do you not dig up the weeds, briars and brambles—drain out the mud holes, the fever "sinks"—draw off the water, if any is stagnating there. 'Do it yourself at "early morn and late at eve," if you can not hire a man to do it, and my word for it, you and your family will be the happier for the improvement, and before many days your appetite for breakfast, and your sleep at night, will both receive a new relish.

Give the ground a most thorough breaking up, rip out every root and branch of improper growth. Then put on any black soil that lines the border of every road and avenue in the vicinity. Place a "pile" on your plot of ground. Spread it over and spade it in perfectly. Now my friend, you are ready for filling your grounds with many comforts. Begin by surrounding the border of the plot with grape vines. They take no room. Plant them six or seven feet apart, and if well planted and carefully cultivated they will in ten years, yes, in five, supply the family with most delightful fruit. If trained high and well fed with pounded or ground bones, soap-suds, &c., they will, in addition to supplying your own wants, from the sale of surplus fruit, often pay the interest on the cost of a cheap lot; while you get a sight of the graceful elegance they display, when folding there tapering arms around the objects that support them; and their cooling shade you get in the bargain. Plant the Isabella and Catawba vines. They are sure bearers all through the lower part of New-York, and surrounding States, South, East and West, and the Isabella every where.

Dig a large hole three or four feet across and one and a half or two feet deep. Then fill it up again with rich dark soil, with ground or pounded bones, and street manure to within nine inches of the top, next put in two or three inches of soil, and put in your vines. Spread out the roots, cover them and fill to the top with good earth. Keep them well watered with all the wash of the house, applied cool, allow but two or three branches from each vine to grow, rub off all the others, and in a few years you will behold a monument of your industry staring you in the face, with smiles and tears—when the fruit is ripe and the morning dew covers the foliage.

Stop not here! Plant some curiosity, Gooseberries that bare the large fruit, and if you have room the Raspberry, Blackberry and a fine bed of Strawberries. You can get these plants very cheaply, the latter from those who are thinning out old beds, for a trifle or the asking. They can be bought cheap at all the seed stores and nurseries. Plant a few peach trees, also plum and cherry if you have them. Or if you prefer a grass plot to whiten the "linen" upon, sow a square plot in the center of your grounds, with timothy, red top and white clover, spreading a little wood ashes over it, and soon you will have a grass plot—"That is a grass plot."

Your grounds are not full. Plant some choice rose bushes, Carnations, Pinks, and the Lilly of the Valley. If you have more than a city lot you can also raise some vegetables for the table. Lettuce, onions, cabbages, potatoes, peas and beans. Be sure to have some roses blowing *out* of the house, and you will soon find some budding within.

Your wife and children will take pleasure in walking out and helping you plant, nurse and enjoy the good things you are bringing forth to brighten the sunshine of the heart, to warm the affections, to make your children lovers of Nature—the noble, the elegant, the graceful, the beautiful in her Kingdom. The study and the practice in these things expand the intellect, elevate the sentiments, and ameliorate the heart. If there are young ladies here, they will not spend the day talking about dress, the number of hoops and flounces that should be introduced to make it the pink of the fashion, the fixings for the ball, the cut and the style—whole days in shopping and spending money that can't well be spared, and sure to lull Nature's golden charms to sleep and death: wraps them in sackcloth and covers them with the ashes of their former greatness; strips the fruit and foliage through neglect of culture. And if allowed to enter the sacredness of those enclosures, this little garden would be stripped of its comforts and delights. The weeds and briars and thorns would come over it. But the change would not stop here: it would enter the portals of the dwelling and fill the garden of the mind, the affections, and the heart with the charms of their own deformity. Let us keep these things from the lots and the plots—and grounds we are cultivating—from field and valley, from country life altogether.

Yours Mr. Editor is a happy task to direct the taste, to open new sources of enjoyment, that never tire, that confer happiness upon him that gives and him that takes, that afford present enjoyment while endueing the mind with a taste, a relish, for those heaven born pleasures that do not wear out with the using. U. T. R.

"Father," said a cobbler's lad, as he was pegging away at an old shoe, "they say that trout bite good now." "Well," replied the old gentleman, "stick to work, and they won't bite you."

GARDENS AND FLOWERS.

[We cannot devote a column or two of space to a better purpose than to the following beautiful thoughts and valuable suggestions from a recent number of the Independent. Those who have read the article before will be profited by a reperusal; and in this journal, adapted as it is for binding and preservation, the article may be read over each successive spring.—Ed.]

Horticulture, which is one of the several distinct departments of rural economy, consists in the *culture of gardens;* and to all persons who have a lot of ground upon which the sun shines, it is an art that especially commends itself at this opening season of the year. Whether it be pursued for the healthful pleasures which it affords, or more directly for profit to the pocket, it is an agreeable, elevating and refining occupation.

The earth in the days of Paradise was a *garden,* and ever since then the highest conception of a region of beauty is invariably akin to this idea. The land of Beulah is described by Bunyan as a *garden.* It is also delineated by artists on the canvas as a *garden.*

The institution of the garden was no less divinely created than the flowers and fruits that grow in it. It is a consecrated inclosure in which the children of the fields—arrayed as Solomon was not!—are gathered in orderly ranks—as if they were a congregation of men—to worship the universal Creator.

What a spectacle a garden might be made to be! If the full conception which the word inspires were made a reality, language could hardly describe the affluence of luxury and beauty which it would yield. What delightful regalements would be offered on every hand! What clusters of fruit would bend down under their sweet burdens, longing to be plucked! What flowers would hold out their fascinations to captivate both sight and smell! What arbors would be reared to blend the sunlight and the shade, and temper it to every whim of the eye! What figs and almonds would grow! What peaches and nectarines! What plums and grapes! What nuts and berries! What golden apples and melting pears! What brooks would murmur, what fountains would spout, what birds would sing!

But if these are necessary to make a garden, we are afraid that gardens will not abound. There is something in the limited ideal of carrots and cabbages that forbids the anticipation of such a pleasing result. Savoys, cauliflowers, and parsnips are excellent in their place, but they are not the things which would give the highest tone to a garden. Beets are good, and so are radishes and beans, but a garden should not be a universal bed of such vegetables. Onions, garlic and rhubarb are essential to soup, and consequently to the garden, but they should not use up the whole cultivated space.

The kitchen, not only, but the parlor, also, should take a deep root in the garden. A garden should be made to minister to more tastes than one. It should yield esculent products for the palate, beginning with the commonest and coarsest vegetables, but also embracing the most rare and delicate varieties. It should comprise a scale of fruits no less extensive, and should be decked and beautified in nook and corner with flowers of every hue and odor.

If the spot be small, and the question of roses or radishes involves the exclusion of one or the other, it is better to let the roses stand, that you may call your ground a *garden.* But if you raise only radishes, it is nothing but a *patch.*

A garden, in the broadest embodiment of the word, if it could be made at all, could not be realized in one year—nor in ten. A rich garden is a *collection.* It must be formed by gradual accumulation—like a cabinet of minerals or of shells. It contains a great mass of diversified materials, brought together one by one from every quarter of the globe. It is a conservatory not only of commonplaces, but of rarities; and if the former may be as abundantly attainable as weeds, the latter are often as difficult of access as pearls. It is a place of spacious walks, with beautiful pavements and ornamental edgings. It is a *work of art,* as well as an exhibition of nature. It requires arches and pipes and furnaces underground, and must be furnished with apparatus to create, whenever needed, any of the varying temperatures of all the seasons as they are exhibited in all productive climates.

But such an ideal of a garden should deter no humble beginner from *gardening.* If a large space cannot be obtained, a small inclosure will answer a good purpose. A large ground with small means—while it may make a good *field*—will never make a *garden.* A single flower growing in a pot, in a house where none has been before, is a joy to all who watch and water it; yet a garden that every one will call small, may number a *thousand* flowers. And it is well to have flowers in pots, where one can do no better: but flowers grow with more thrift when their roots grow down into the bosom of the earth itself. A garden, containing many such, might be had on a small spot, and with but little trouble.

No man can understand nature who never cultivates flowers, and no one can pluck the greatest pleasure and profit from their cultivation, except the garden has its full share of specimens and varieties. Many of nature's works are so complete and beautiful, as to inspire the idea that they are animated with intelligence, but the highest in the whole range is the flower. Fruits are second, but the first are flowers. How many of them seem to be possessed of *consciousness!* If they cannot speak they can listen—but they can almost speak! It is a pleasurable pursuit to gather shells and minerals, but these have no life. Ore, though it be full of gold, is dead and dull. A shell is more suggestive than a stone or metal, for it was once the habitation of a living creature. But a flower is all life. It is not merely a shelly husk. No part of it is formed from inorganic deposits. Its roots and stems have no less vitality than its buds and blossoms.

Flowers are by far the greatest essentials to a garden, and they are so plentiful that every one may have them. Men should be thankful that they grow on the surface of the earth in such profusion! Their varieties are almost innumerable. There is hardly a climate or a soil in which they do not appear. Travelers have found them in journeying among the sands of the Great Desert, and in ascending to the summits of the Alps. Dr. Kane found shrubs and flowers of the most delicate tissues within the limits of the Arctic circle. They grow even in damp dark yards and under stoops in cities.

No one can be excused who has not a flower somewhere near him, trained and tended by his own hand, either outside his dwelling or within it. And many might have a hundred, where they now have five. Many might have a garden, who have only a single pot. Pictures and works of art are costly decorations for the household—but flowers are cheap. Few can ever possess the one, while all may have the other; and the question of preference—who cannot decide? If flowers were as rare as painted Madonnas, a rose would be a thousand times more precious than the choicest canvas from the easel of Correggio! Flowers are not prized because they are plentiful. If diamonds were scattered over the ground like pebbles, how many ladies would wear diamond rings? Yet the lustre of a single gem would be no less, though ten thousand others sparkled in the grass. It is because flowers are so abundant in the aggregate, that so few people take pains to gather them into their houses and gardens.

But flowers are *wealth,* and should be husbanded and multiplied; and now is the time to put them out at interest—seed and plant—that they may "yield their own with usury. And unlike the man in the parable who "went and *digged in the earth* and hid his Lord's money," it will be found in the case of flowers that those persons will best succeed who go and *dig in the earth.* The April rains are already moistening the soil, and what is planted will soon be quickened, and will in due time break through the surface and grow. The beginning of the work of gardening can hardly be made too early; and as he who plants for flowers will not have to wait until autumn before he shall reap his rewards, there are many inducements to take spade, hoe and rake, and go out immediately to prepare the beds for the seeds or slips.

We hope that the bearing of these random observations may not be lost upon our readers, who will be every day invited by the further opening of Spring to put them into practical effect.

A Song for Spring.—There is no prettier song of Spring than that of Solomon, which is worth publishing as often as Winter departs and Spring, with her sunshine smiles, and drapery of green appears:

"Lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in the land; the fig-tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines of the tender grape give a good smell."

WOMAN AND THE GARDEN.

BY PROF. J. A. NASH.

Farmers should give more attention than is usual to the garden and orchard. Their wives and daughters should have a finger in this pie. Let them *direct* the whole business, and *do* a part of it with their own hands. What signifies this having so many pale, sickly women? It is the bane of American women—worst of all in the rural districts—that they are always shut up. In cities and large villages, they shop and spin street-yarn; see, and are seen of, men; and seem to have an existence, to be a part and parcel of mankind; but not so in our rural districts. As they say out west, *it used to was*, that if a citizen wanted a good, substantial, sensible wife, he must look to the country. But the tables are turning. It is fast coming about, that if a farmer's son should take a fancy *to double the team*, as the Wild-cats, Hoosiers and Suckers tell of doing, he will have to look to the city. We congratulate the city misses; but alas, for the country girls! "Who'll be coming?" The trouble is, our women are *prisoners*, self-made, perhaps, but none the less pale for that. A man might ride all day in our rural districts, and feel at the end of his journey as if he would give more to see a woman than to see any of Barnum's rarities, unless perchance he had passed from Hartford to New-Haven, on the old stage route. Shame on the false *notions*, the downright wrongs (self-inflicted?) on women! Where are the woman's rights folks?

We must not be enticed too long from our subject, the garden. But we want to say two things which will be worth *reading*; and if our readers will *think* a little, they will be willing to carry them into practice.

One is, that if *men*, especially in our rural districts, would consent *to know* a little more about indoor work, *to do* a little more as occasion requires, *to learn* by actual experience that the being perpetually shut up to it is not all child's play, *to see*, with their own *eyes*, and *feel*, through all their *bones*, the want of a few simple, inexpensive fixtures and implements to facilitate woman's labors, and shorten her confinement, it would open the way to important domestic improvements.

The other is, that if the women in our rural districts would consent to be a little informed about the interests and labors of their husbands, and brothers, and if they would occasionally go into the field (not to labor all day and get sunburnt; that is not what we mean; we do not desire the same state of things that exists in the mother countries, where you can not distinguish a woman from a man by looking into the face or at the feet, but only by the intervening vestiture), say to carry out the lunch, to sit under the cool shade and help eat it, to take hold of the plow or scythe just long enough to see what a woman can, or can not do, to breathe the pure air, to see how different from the odor of the sink-room is that of the newly turned soil, and the freshly made hay, to expand the chest, to drink in the joyousness of nature, to laugh instead of sighing and to bloom in place of fading, it would be a wonderful improvement.

This arbitrary division—we will not say of labor—for we do not wish the distinction of heavier, rougher work for men, and of lighter, cleanlier work for woman to be broken in upon—but of a knowledge of the works in different parts of the same establishment, a division more rigidly observed among us than among any other people, so that we know little more of our wives' cares than a goat does of the fine arts, and they hardly as much of ours as one of the small footed celestials does of farming on a western prairie, is a wretched hindrance to the pleasures of domestic life. Away with it!

We have now gone another step towards solving an important problem, proposed some time since;—why our women are the frailest *physically* of all Eve's daughter? A miserable low estimate of rural employments, conventional usages, and above all a false taste, as if it were indelicate for them *to know* much, and absolutely degrading *to care* any thing for such vulgar matters as the garden, the field, and the farm stock, have kept them ignorant of many things they ought to know, taken away their rational liberties, abridged the excitement essential to health, imprisoned them, blanched them, unnerved them, unmuscled them (to make a word,) made what they must not be, if the race is worth preserving.

The everlasting scrubbing of floors, sweeping carpets, washing dishes, sewing up rips, tending responsibilities, getting breakfast, dinner, supper, going to bed, getting up—this is woman's sphere is it? Very good. But it should be enlarged a little. There must be more variety, more excitement, more out-door inspiration. Riding out now and then amounts to nothing, unless it be on horse back; and how many of our farmer's wives and daughters were ever on top of grandmother's side saddle? We doubt whether they would dare mount it, unless it were placed on a box in the garret. There is a want among us of out-door exhilarating, inspirating, muscle making exercise for women. We are not anxious to build a throne and put a woman on it, as they do in England. Nor would we make woman hoe the broad turnip fields, and weed the wheat, and shake the hay, as they do. It is not necessary that woman be made a sovereign or a drudge, but her sphere should extend somewhat outside of lath and plaster. Mothers, go out; take your daughters along with you; visit the garden; explore the terra incognita of the whole farm; take an interest in all its improvements. The garden is especially within your province. A part of it, and not a stingy part, should be cultivated with a succession of flowers, blooming from April to November. If your husbands will not give you a beautiful plot for this purpose, let us know it, and we will write a Phillippic at them. Guano, dissolved at the rate of one pound to a barrel of water, makes the richest of flowers. If your worse half will not give you this, you may find enough else near home that will do about as well. If he tells you that flowers are useless, you may box his ears, *softly*, we mean. Make him give you a beautiful patch, of the size of your parlor at least, and from that up to the ground plot of a large dwelling house. He should manure it well, and spade it up for you to begin with; and then the *women folks* should do the rest, and it should be a little Eden all summer, where much is to be learned and much enjoyed. The work may be done before breakfast and on cloudy days, if you fear the sun.

But your walks need not be limited to the flower garden. The kitchen garden should be enlarged. What a little, penurious apology for a garden we see around too many of our farm houses, as if what is taken for a garden was lost to the farm, and as if the work done on it was so much thrown away, instead of being, as it really is, the most profitable on the place. Let the kitchen garden produce a surplus of every vegetable desired for the table. No matter how great the surplus; for, besides the desirableness of having something to give away, nearly every product of the garden is worth more for stock than it costs; as onions, cut into fine pieces, for hens; sun-flower seeds for the poultry at large; beets, parsnips, turnips, for the cows; carrots for either cows or horses; cabbages and corn-stalks for soiling purposes; and weeds, if unfortunately there should be a surplus, for the pigs. But if you have a good husband, and manage him well, we mean if you take as much interest in the garden yourself as is for your health and happiness, there will not be a large growth of weeds.

Neither is it necessary for you to confine your walks to the kitchen garden. What a miserable idea is it, that there is any thing vulgar, indelicate, or improper in a woman's being, in *theory*, or even in *practice*, if need be, at least in direction, a good farmer. Life is uncertain. Why should not the farmer's wife learn how she may live independently if left with no other support for her family than the farm. In England we believe it often happens that the farmer's wife carries out the lease most successfully in case of the husband's decease. We recollect distinctly, when sitting at the table of a farmer in that country, whose family consisted of himself, wife, two daughters and a little son, to have made this reflection; we said within, what a sturdy pair of farmers are here, and how sensible and intelligent both; and the thought occurred to us, that if either should be taken away, the other would carry out the ten years lease of the 500 acres on which they lived, manfully, or womanly as the case might be, but in either emergency well. And yet we never witnessed more manifest propriety, more perfect freedom from all unpleasant assumption, or more intelligence without affectation, than in that great strapping woman, if measured by the eye, but accomplished lady, if measured by the true standard—the mind. We fancied that our great-great-grandmothers, nine generations ago were like her. English women are not ashamed to know something about agriculture, nor to do something about it, if emergencies require. Why should the American women be?

THE AFTER TREATMENT OF THE STRAWBERRY.

A correspondent, who followed our directions for making a Strawberry bed, asks for further instructions upon its cultivation. What is to be done with the runners, &c.? This is a matter of a good deal of importance, to the amateur, and to the market gardener. The process must be a little different, according to the objects in view. If the object is to get the largest amount of very fine specimens of fruit, and of the highest quality, we should not suffer a runner to make a new plant during the season. Go over the ground as often as once in three weeks, and clip every runner. The plants set this Spring will bear very little fruit, and the whole management should be in reference to the next year's crop. The clipping of the runners will concentrate the energies of the plant upon making roots, and forming flower buds for the next year. If allowed to run, a multitude of young plants will be formed, and all the strength of the parent plant will be drawn off to these. We noticed in a bed of the McAvoy's Superior, which we left for forming new plants, that many of the old plants were entirely exhausted by the effort, and did not survive the winter. Many pursue this course with their bearing beds, thinking it less trouble to cut up the young plants, and form new rows in the Spring, than to keep them carefully clipped. But this is a slovenly method, and does not give so good results. Removing the runners has two advantages. It gives opportunity for constant cultivation during the summer, and makes strong plants with full large heads. A plant thus treated sends out its roots in all directions, and will take complete possession of a cube of earth too feet upon each side of it, if it finds it unoccupied with other plants. In the second Spring, there will be a compact head of leaves and flower stalks, and the fruit will be large, and of the best quality, the variety is capable of producing. The amateur will find much more satisfaction in cultivating them by this method than by the more common and more careless one of leaving the runners to take possession of the ground, and to struggle with the weeds.

During the second season when the plants are expected to bear, they should be watered abundantly, with weak liquid manure. This is particularly important after the berries have set, and before they reach their maturity. After they begin to ripen they should be watered less frequently.

If the quantity of fruit is more of an object with the grower than size, and quantity, we think it a good plan to allow one plant to grow between those already set, bringing them nine inches a part in the row and just doubling the number of plants upon a given area. This is particularly desirable with the Hovey's Seedling, which requires less room than some of the other varieties. The fruit of course will not be so large, but there will be more of it. Whether the cultivator will gain any thing by the larger quantity, will depend very much upon his market. In the large cities, size and quality command a much higher price than an ordinary article. But in many markets a Strawberry is a Strawberry, and a quart of acid Iowas will bring as much as a quart of the highest flavored Pines.

Our direction then for the after treatment of the Strawberry is to keep the runners close cut, cultivate thoroughly, and apply liquid manure in the bearing season.—Ed.

OUR GARDEN—HOW WE WATER AND HOW MANURE IT FOR NOTHING.

We have a kind of experimental plot of nearly one-fourth of an acre, upon which we have put out a large variety of seeds, roots, plants, etc., of both old and new varieties. As we did not get possession until after the first of May, and was then hindered by rains and other pressing business from working it for ten days more, most things put out had a late start. We added no stable manure, and the ground had never had but one slim coating. We procured a barrel of fine bones, (sawings from a factory) which cost us delivered $3 75 per barrel. A small portion of this was mixed with soil, and put into the hills and drills with the seeds. The main manuring is still to be given as follows :

In one corner nearest to the house, we have sunk a pine hogshead, the top of it, from which the head is removed, is even with the surface of the ground. The removed head is used as a cover, a strip of board being nailed across the top, which projects from the sides far enough to prevent it from falling in, and at the same time answer for handles. The hogshead is an ordinary one in which crockery came packed, and which would not have held water were not the soil packed firmly around it, and not even then, if used for clear water. Into this hogshead *all liquids* from the house, from the kitchen, wash-room, and chambers are poured. The fine materials sifted from coal-ashes also go into the same common receptacle. The coarser cinders are dug into a piece of heavy clayey soil. The dish-water, including waste food, the soap-suds, urine, etc., all furnish rich fertilizing materials. The alkaline 'suds,' and ashes, serve to keep down disagreeable odors. Should these arise in very hot weather, we shall add a trifle of chloride of lime. Probably 25 cents worth will serve for the whole season.

From this tub the roots of every plant in the garden will receive an occasional dose during the entire summer. If the liquid gets too strong by evaporation, or by an unusual accumulation of strong liquids from the kitchen or chamber, it will be thinned by adding water from the cistern. The material is raised from the hogshead with a small bucket having a long handle nailed upon one side. From experiments of a similar character, we are quite sure our garden plot will need no other application to make it as flourishing as could be desired. The slops, instead of running from a sink-spout into a sluggish drain, to breed—if not a pestilence—at least a noisome stench, are by this means all got rid of conveniently and even neatly, and this alone will pay for all trouble, while our plants, trees, &c., will get *at least* twenty dollars worth of manuring for —NOTHING !

We are fully prepared by both experience and observation to strongly recommend this plan, or a similar one, to all. When we get time to erect our "home-made poudrette factory," we will describe that also.

RADISHES NOT FIT TO EAT.

We have no partiality for radishes "raw or cooked" and never have had—we have never been able to find anything "delicious" in a radish root, tough or crisp, strong or tasteless, as a pine board. Still, as others like them, we have always provided them for our table. This Spring we have scattered seed in the vacant nooks and corners of the garden, among the currant bushes, between the rows of potatoes, and in a hundred or less other places, to be pulled for use, or dug up as weeds, according to circumstances. A sixpence worth of seed will probably furnish some bushels, with no loss of ground, or extra labor in cultivation. (See *our* method, at page 185, last month.) But we are half disposed to dig them all up at once, and to repent every word we have written to aid others in growing this plant, after reading the following in the Soil of the South, from the pen of Mr. Peabody, who is pretty good authority. He says :

We are frequently taken to task for the war we have waged upon this worse than worthless vegetable. For fifteen years, we have not permitted one to grow in our garden, or to *dis*grace our table, and we have found the advantage of pursuing this course, in the improved health of our family. Man is the only animal that will eat a radish, either raw or cooked. The sagacious hog will starve before he will eat the poisonous trash. Crude radishes are the most indigestible food that can be taken into the human stomach, independent of the acrid, poisonous substance they contain. But they do not hurt me, exclaims one, I can eat them with impunity ! and with a relish. But, dear reader, do you not have the headache, or a bad breath ? Have you no doctor's bills to pay ? A radish eaten in the spring may cause a fever in the fall. If any one doubts the poisonous qualities of radishes, let them cut in thin slices, three or four, and soak the slices in water for twelve hours, and then taste the water. Our word for it, they will never taste another radish. As a watchman upon the horticultural watchtower, we cannot commend the culture of a vegetable, that we *know* to be injurious.

The Curculio.—The Kentucky Horticultural Society have come forward nobly, and offered a reward of $500 for the discovery of a certain, effectual, and easily applied remedy against the *Curculio.* Let other Societies imitate their example, if not on the same scale. A good lot of premiums, amounting say from $3,000 to $5,000, will set experimenters to work, and something valuable will ere long turn up. Money could not be appropriated to better advantage.[Ed.

Strawberry Freak.—The Louisville Courier states that a singular freak of nature is noticeable this year in the strawberries of that neighborhood. The variety called the Longworth Prolific has been remarkable as having stamens and pistils on the same flower, but all the plants of that variety are now in bloom near Louisville, and all destitute of stamens. The flowers are all alike, fine large pistillate blooms, entirely without stamens. Some of the beds are three years old, and others two years, and this present bloom is the first appearance of deviation.

For the American Agriculturist.

MRS. BROWN'S EXPERIENCE IN PAINTING AND PAPERING.

Mrs. Brown had been busily employed all day in scrubbing, while Jane had whitewashed the ceiling of the parlor, making it as white as milk. Every trace of winter's smoke and dust had passed away from ceiling and wood-work, but the paper on the walls was dingy, and no rubbing with brush or cotton could make it fair and clean. The paint too was worn from the doors and windows, and along the edges of the base-board the native color of the pine showed itself, giving evidence that both time and Mrs. Brown had been busy in the parlor. The lady, however, was somewhat dissatisfied with her work. The appearance of the room was not altogether what she desired. "I do wish we could have this room painted and papered," she exclaimed, "but Mr. Brown has had to expend so much on the farm this Spring, I know he cannot afford it."

"I wish it could be done," responded Jane, who was always ready to second her mother's wishes.

"If we only had the paint," continued the good woman, "I think we might do it ourselves, and then it would not add much to our expenses."

After some conversation on the subject, they decided to make inquiries in regard to the price of paint, brushes, and paper, the first time they should go to the village. At the tea-table, they told Mr. Brown their plans, and he very cordially approved them, although he feared it would be too hard for them to do it, but they were willing to encounter the fatigue, that they might enjoy the comfort the fatigue would ensure.

The next day Mrs. Brown went with her husband, in the farm wagon, to the village, and made the inquiries she wished. She found she could get a keg of American zinc paint weighing twenty-five pounds for two dollars. The French zinc came a few shillings higher, but it makes a purer white, and as she wished white paint for the parlor she concluded to purchase it in preference to the American, which is more glossy, and answers equally well when it is to be tinted. She selected a large brush for seven shillings, and a small one for one shilling. She also bought some spirits of turpentine to mix with the paint to thin it for use. She was told that it was unnecessary to add oil, there being sufficient put in when the paint was ground. She also bought a little tin can containing a pound of raw amber for eighteen pence, to color the paint for the dining-room, as she concluded that while she was about such work, she might as well improve the appearance of that room as the other.

After these important purchases were made, she looked at various styles of paper for the walls, and selected a very pretty one of a neutral tint for the parlor, for which she paid two shillings a roll, and one of wood-color, well covered, for the dining-room, for which she paid only a shilling a roll. The shop-keeper exhibited for her inspection quite a variety of paper. Some of it was covered with railroad tracks, the cars apparently in full motion, but never moving an inch from the same spot; a wearisome and ugly sight on the walls of a room, however impressive the reality is when moving along in its grandeur and might, and ever and anon sending forth a roar which rivals that of the king of beasts. Then too there were great parrots, and birds of Paradise, and stainy flowers as unlike nature, as nature is unlike deformity. but Mrs. Brown had too much taste to select any such for her purpose, she preferred those which were not marked, nor glaring in their character.

Mrs. Brown went home quite delighted with her purchases, and her husband and Jane fully sympathized with her. Mr. Brown did not consider anything which affected his wife's comfort of small consequence, and he would gladly have called in paperers and painters if he could afford it, but as he could not, he determined to give her all the assistance his business would allow. He mixed the paint for her to save her the trouble, and used the brushes a little himself. In about half a day Mrs. Brown and her daughter gave the parlor its first coat of paint. They were gratified with their success, having prospered quite as well as they had anticipated. By the next afternoon it was dry enough to receive a second coat. How nicely it made the room look,—so nicely that they decided to give a third to make it perfect. Each day they were amply compensated for their labor by the improvement they witnessed.

When the paint was sufficiently hardened, they proceeded to paper the room. Jane made a paste of rye flour, adding to it a little alum, as she scalded it. They used a small whisk broom and an old hair dust-brush for spreading the paste. As they put the paper on the wall, they were careful to match it, and to remove all wrinkles and air bubbles by patting it with a cotton cloth. They began the smoothing in the middle of the paper, patting outward to each edge. It took them nearly a day to finish. Then the carpet was put down, and the pretty, small-figured chintz curtains were hung at the windows. The cane seated chairs, the ottomans—made of soap-boxes, with springs, and covered with chintz like the curtains—and the lounge of domestic manufacture, with the other furniture were brought in, and tastefully arranged. In one corner stood a small "what not" filled with books, for all Mrs. Brown's family loved to read. When the arrangements were completed, even to filling a vase with a few spring flowers, Mrs. Brown seated herself in the great arm chair to contemplate the result of her new effort at house-cleaning, and this time she was perfectly satisfied. Her parlor was as pretty and tasteful as any lady need desire.

Mrs. Brown's success in the dining-room was equally pleasing. The paint she tinted with umber, instead of using the pure white. When the two rooms were finished there was paint enough left for another, and this she used in her own chamber. She expresses her intention of painting more or less every Spring, thus keeping her house in the finest order, without suffering the annoyance of having strange painters about, and at the same time saving much expense.

I have given a brief account of Mrs. Brown's experience in papering and painting for the encouragement of other housekeepers, who are equally disheartened in regard to the appearance of their rooms. It is an old saying that "what man has done, man may do," and it is equally true that what woman has done woman may do.

It is not difficult to learn to paper, or to paint. All it requires is a little instruction and a little experience. The Agriculturist has given us some valuable information in regard to different colors, which may essentially aid those who wish to try for themselves Mrs. Brown's experiment.

ANNA HOPE.

REARING CHICKENS—A LADY'S EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

As this is the season of the year for rearing chickens, allow me to communicate the results of my own experience in this interesting process. Last year I had a great mortality among my young broods. One little beauty after another drooped its tiny wings, and pined away till death finished its sufferings. I consulted the most approved books on Poultry breeding, and administered in turn the various remedies therein recommended for diseased fowls—pepper, chopped onions, powdered rhubarb, &c.,—but all these remedies were equally unsuccessful, and the chickens so doctored died off quite as quickly as those in which the disease was allowed to follow the natural course. At length, when the little favorite chicken—a lovely black Dorking—"took sick and died," I determined to discover, if possible, the exact nature and cause of its disease by dissecting it. On carefully opening the little body, I found the gall bladder about twice its natural size, and black as ink. The liver was also very large, and of a deep yellow color. The heart was small, pale, and flaccid, and the intestines were distended with air to the very utmost, like blown up bladders. Other chickens which perished from the same malady, presented similar appearances on dissection.

Judging from these appearances I inferred that the mortality among my chickens was principally occasioned by a derangement of the liver and digestive apparatus induced by improper diet. I had fed them on fine Indian meal mixed with water; and they likewise partook of the unground corn flung to the larger fowls, as I found two or three undigested grains in the crop and gizzard of some of the chickens. The children also supplied them pretty plentifully with chopped meat and tit-bits from the table. This year I discarded the Indial meal, and fed my chickens for the first week on a dry paste compounded of chopped hard boiled eggs, bread crumbs, and oatmeal. About the second or third week, I gave rice which had been boiled six minutes and strained from the water, with meal strown over it. Afterwards I gave cracked corn, which I consider a very excellent food for young chickens in all stages of their growth: it is retailed at the same price as unground corn, viz: 88 cents per bushel, at the present time in Brooklyn. There has been no loss among my chickens since the adoption of this diet. I may add, that I am careful in securing them against damp, and always keep them under shelter on rainy days. In fine weather the brood hens are confined in roomy coops in the garden, and the chickens are allowed to range about. I consider them good gardeners in the full sense of the term, as they industriously pick up every worm and insect that can be found. Huldah.

East Brooklyn, May 10, 1856.

NOVEL METHOD FOR CLEARING A HOUSE OF RATS.

A chemical friend of ours has recently detailed to us the following account of a novel, amusing, and at the same time effectual, plan adopted by him for freeing his house from these most unwelcome visitors—the rats. The house he occupied in Boston was one of a block, and when first tenanted was comparatively free from the intruders in question. After a time, however, for some unknown reason, they appeared at once in great numbers. They occupied every room and closet, marauded in the cellar, gallopaded in the garret, and danced jigs nightly over every sleeping apartment, *a la ten pins*. Every expedient thought of was adopted for lessening their numbers, but without effect. Traps availed nothing—the rats were old and wise—poison had no temptations, cats were defied. At last our friend bethought himself of summoning the powers of chemistry to his aid, which he did as follows: Raising a small board in the garret floor, he opened a communication between the floor and ceiling beneath, which interior communicated with the spaces between the side walls and the laths and plaster over the whole house. Into this opening he placed a dish containing finely pulverized black oxide of manganese, and poured over it a suitable quantity of strong hydrochloric (muriatic) acid. The floor-board was then replaced. The effect of the chemical mixture of black oxide of manganese and hydrochloric acid is to disengage slowly in the cold that most powerful, deodorizing, fumigating gas, *chlorine*. In common with all gases, it gradually diffuses itself through the air, but having a greater weight than atmospheric air, it accumulates at the lowest levels. The tendency of the gas liberated, therefore, was to penetrate every vacant space between the walls and ceilings, and at last found exit in the cellar.

It may be here stated that the quantity of gas so liberated can exert no injurious effect upon the house or its inmates—indeed the result is rather beneficial than otherwise upon the general health. In the case in question, the odor was not noticed to any extent in the body of the house, but after a while was very preceptible in the cellars. In a concentrated condition, chlorine, it is well-known, is most offensive, irrespirable and destructive of animal life. It, at the same time, neutralizes and destroys all other odors and infectious matters.

To return, however, to the rats. The chemical arrangement described had not been long in operation, when it became evident that something unusual was occurring in ratdom. Meetings were apparently being held in hot haste, and messengers were despatched to and fro. "All night long; it would seem," says the narrator, "as if Bedlam had broken loose between the partitions of my house. The inhabitants were not only decamping, but were carrying their plunder and household goods along with them." Towards morning, however, all had became quiet—the rats had vamosed, big and little, and for a period of nearly three months not one was heard or seen on the premises. Now they are gradually returning, but as soon as they become troublesome, another invitation to leave will be extended.

[The above from the Farm Journal, may be a pretty effectual method in some cases, but not a very *safe* one. Chlorine is a suffocating and deadly gas, if breathed in too large quantities. We should be very loth to go to sleep with the gas escaping any where about the house. The same result would be produced by placing considerable quantities of the common cheap chloride of calcium (chloride of lime) in open dishes just as is practiced in cleansing sick rooms. Burning sulphur, and even charcoal will have a similar effect. If these gases are used, let the dwelling be vacated by all human beings during the operation. If there are colored articles of clothing in the house not perfectly dry they will be pretty effectually bleached if allowed to remain in an atmosphere of chlorine or sulphurous acid gas.—Ed.]

Getting Ready for Marriage.—A strange fancy is exhibited in the case of a rich old spinster, who died at Newtown, N. H., recently, leaving behind her the nice little sum of $38,419. She had been all her life getting ready to be married, and had stored up 182 sheets, 63 coverlets, 50 blankets, 27 beds, with 1,120 pounds of feathers, 54 towels, 24 table covers, and 43 handkerchiefs, while the whole amount of her wearing apparel did not exceed $10 in value.

The Express Messenger—A wide-awake, *first-rate* weekly paper, devoted to entertaining literature, agricultural and express intelligence, &c., worth ten times its cost. Published at $1 50 per annum, or $1 for eight months, by A. L. Stimson, Produce and Commission Merchant, No. 162 Fulton-st., New-York.

THE LITTLE WINTER GRAVE.

[The following lines though out of season, come home to *our* heart, and we put them in this corner that we may look at them again and again.—Ed.]

Our baby lies under the snow, sweet wife,
  Our baby lies under the snow,
Out in the dark with the night,
  While the winds so loudly blow.
As a dead saint thou art pale, sweet wife.
  And the cross is on thy breast,
Oh the snow no more can chill
  That little dove in its nest.

Shall we shut the baby out sweet wife,
  While the chilling winds do blow?
Oh, the grave is now its bed,
  And its coverlid is snow.
Oh, our merry bird is snared, sweet wife,
  That a strain of music gave,
And the snow falls on our hearts,
  And our hearts are each a grave.

Oh, it was the lamp of our life, sweet wife,
  Blown out in a night of gloom;
A leaf from our flower of love.
  Nipped in its fresh Spring bloom.
But the lamp will shine above, sweet wife,
  And the leaf again shall grow,
Where there are no bitter winds,
  And no dreary, dreary snow.

Poetry Sobered Down.—I'm thinking of the time, Kate, when sitting by thy side, and shelling beans I gazed on thee, and felt a wondrous pride. In silence leaned we o'er the pan, and neither spoke a word, but the rattling of the beans, Kate, was all the sound we heard. Thy auburn curls hung down, Kate, and kissed thy lily cheek; azure eyes half filled with tears bespoke a spirit meek. To be so charmed as I was then had ne'er before occurred, when the rattling of the beans, Kate, was all the sound I heard. I thought it was not wrong, Kate, so leaning o'er the dish, as you snatched up a lot of beans, I snatched a nectared kiss. And a sudden shower made my eyes blind, and I neither saw nor stirred, but the rattling of the beans, Kate, was all the sound I heard.

Wise Legislator.—A shrewd farmer in the Vermont Legislature declined answering the speech of a member who was remarkable for nothing but his pugnastic impudence and self-conceit. "For, Mr. Speaker," said he, "I can't reply to that speech, for it always wrenches me terribly to kick against nothing."

The **Mormons at Home**, with some Incidents of Travel from Missouri to California, 1852-3, in a series of letters. By Mrs. B. G. Ferris (wife of the U. S. Secretary for Utah). 300 pages. Price 75 cents. This is a book which will be perused with much interest.

A census taker once called upon the mother of a family in California, or some other prolific country, and asked how many children she had. The mother replied that she really could not tell, but there was this of which she was certain, "the measles got among the children once, but there wasn't enough of it to go round."

The Frost saw the pretty Flower, and sought to marry. "Wilt thou?" said the Frost, and the Flower *wilted*.

New Jersey State Agricultural Society's Second Annual Exhibition, 1856.—This is to be held at Newark, Sept. 10th to 12th inclusive. A liberal premium list has been published, and extensive preparations are making to get up a first class exhibition, and we doubt not it will be done. Newark City alone is able to furnish a paying crowd of visitors, while the near and easy access of the grounds to New York City will call forth many attendants from that place. But the **farmers** of New Jersey should not only exert themselves to get up a good show, but also lay their plans to make this the occasion for their great autumnal holidays.

Strychnine—Lard not an Antidote.—A statement has been quite current during a year or so past, that hog's lard is an antidote for that terrible poison, Strychnine. In the Eclectic Medical Journal we find a communication from Dr. B. Keith, M. D., in which he states that he has been experimenting, in order to verify or disprove the correctness of the lard antidote. He operated upon a strong and healthy dog, to which he administered eight ounces of lard, and five minutes after one grain of strychnine. In six hours after taking this small quantity of strychnine the poor dog breathed his last.

A just man should account nothing more precious than his word, nothing more venerable than his faith, and nothing more sacred than his promise.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &c.

American Agriculturist Office,
New-York, May 29, 1856.

At our last review (April 28) we stated that a decline was taking place in Breadstuffs. This continued to about the middle of this month, when a slight re-action commenced, and prices are now a little higher than one month ago, though a downward tendency is again exhibited. The most recent intelligence from Europe is unfavorable to present rates being continued here. The reports from all parts of this country exhibit fair prospects for the coming harvest, though it is still too early to calculate upon the result with any degree of certainty. We think the chances are decidedly against higher prices for grain during a year to come. This is now, however, merely an opinion. Two months from this date we shall have more extensive data to judge from. We are making arrangements to get the earliest possible information from all parts of the country.

☞ We respectfully ask all our correspondents and readers to drop us a line or two, in season to reach us by the 23d to the 25th of each month, stating briefly what is the actual condition of the wheat and other crops in their immediate vicinity.

We find upon our note-book, records of sales of Breadstuffs for 26 business days, ending to-day: of Flour, 387,700 barrels; of Wheat, 593,600 bushels; of Corn, 1,099,000 bushels; of Rye, 134,700 bushels; and of Barley, 1,800 bushels. Our last report, (April 29) for 27 business days gave of Flour, 281,600 barrels; of Wheat, 191,000 bushels; of Corn, 1,147,000 bushels; of Rye, 213,600 bushels; and of Barley, 44,200 bus.

The following figures show the present price of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

		April 29.	May 29.
Flour—Superfine No. 2.....		$4 75@ 5 50	$5 00@5 87
OrdinaryState		5 50@ 5 75	6 00@ 6 06
Mixed Western.........		5 25@ 6 00	5 18@ 6 37
Favorite and Ex. State..		5 75@ 6 25	6 12@ 6 50
Extra Genesee		6 50@ 9 00	6 75@ 8 75
Wheat—Canada White.....		1 70@ 1 90	1 55@ 1 80
Southern White		1 60@ 1 80	1 60@ 1 75
Southern Red...........		1 50@ 1 65	1 50@ 1 65
Western Red and White		1 34@ 1 80	1 30@ 1 50
Corn—Western Mixed......		58@ 60	59@ 61
.....Yellow and White.		60@ 62	58@ 66
Rye		85@ 92	84@ 86
Barley.............		1 10@ 1 25	1 10@ 1 25
Oats—Western, &c.........		30@ 44	30@ 37
Cotton—Middling...........		11¼@ 11¾	10¾@ 11
Rice................	℔100lbs	3 50@ 4 25	3 50@ 4 37
Pork—Mess........	℔ bbl...	18 00@18 50	16 50@18 50
Dressed Hogs......	℔ lb....	7@ 7¾	8@ 8⅜
Lard, in bbls.......	℔ lb....	9¼@ 10¼	10½@ 11
Butter—Western...	℔ lb....	11@ 17	11@ 16
State...........	℔ lb....	16@ 22	16@ 22
Cheese.............	℔ lb....		6@ 9
Potatoes—Carters..	℔ bbl..	1 62@ 2 00	1 37@ 1 50
Mercers.........	℔ bbl..	1 12@ 2 62	1 37@ 1 75
Onions—Reds......	℔ bbl..	1 25@ 1 50	1 25@ 1 50
White..........	℔ bbl..	2 00@ 2 50	2 00@ 2 75
Apples..............	℔ bbl..	1 25@ 2 62	1 00@ 3 50

Beef Cattle were quite abundant on the last three market days, and prices have ruled somewhat low. Ohio and Illinois have supplied two-thirds to three-fourths of all sold here during the month of May. Yesterday there was a slight advance over the average prices of the month. We quote the closing prices at 44th-street last evening; Premium cattle 10¼c.a10½c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 9¾c.a10¼c.; Medium quality, 9¼c.a9¾c.; Poor quality, 8½c.a9c.; Poorest quality 8c.a8¼c.; General selling prices, 9¼c.a10¼c. Average of all sales, about 9½c.a9¾c.

Guano is now sold by the Peruvian Government agents in lots, at the following rates for *cash*, viz; 10 to 25 tuns, $60 per tun; 26 to 50 tuns, $59 per tun; 51 to 100 tuns, $58 per tun; 101 to 150 tuns, $57 per tun; 151 to 200 tuns, $56 per tun; 201 to 500 tuns, $55 per tun; and for 501 tuns and upward, a credit of 60 days. Our largest dealers, who buy sufficient at a time to get it at the lowest rates, now retail it at 2¾c. per lb. or $55 for the tun of 2,000 lbs. The difference in the *long* and *short* tun being just about enough to cover expenses of cartage, storage, interest, and a very small profit.

The Weather.—This has been very favorable during most of this month, both for getting in Spring crops and for hastening forward winter grain kept back by a very late opening of Spring. We hear of considerable damage to fruit trees in different parts of the country. In many places peach trees, especially, were killed down to the ground, when not entirely destroyed. Winter wheat and rye, as well as clover, do not appear to have suffered as much from Winter-kill as was at first feared. The heavy body of snow upon the ground served as a valuable protection. The grass crop promises magnificently.

Our weather notes read thus:—May 1st clear; 2d and 3d rainy; 5th and 6th clear, cool and frosty; 7th a little rain: 8th, 9th, and 10th, cold Northeast rain, which cleared up on the morning of the 11th; 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th, clear and warm, everything growing finely; 16th, warm showers; 17th, 18th, and 19th, clear and fine; 20th rain and fog in the morning, clear P. M.; 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, clear and warm; 25th, 26th and 27th clear and cool; 28th showers; to-day, (29th) clear and fine.

Seeds planted last month have in some instances failed to come up, and a new planting required. Most of our own seeds were put in from the 5th to the 12th of this month and these have nearly all vegetated and are above ground. The following will serve for future reference:

April 3d—Crocus in bloom. We have occasionally seen them in bloom the first week in March. Their coming forward early depends much upon the weather last of February and forepart of March.

April 10th—The Weeping Willow, Lilac, Gooseberry, Currant, Privet, and some other shrubs began to leave out. We have noticed these some seasons as early as the 24th of March.

April 17th—Planting potatoes commenced on the south side of Long Island.

April 24th—Apricot began to bloom.

May 1st—Cherry and Peach began to bloom. We have often known these to come out 14 to 17 days earlier.

May 3d—Willow and Horsechesnut in half leaf.

May 10th—Horse Chestnut and Lilac began to bloom.

In keeping a record of the leaving and blooming of trees, shrubs, &c., our observations should not only be made in the same localities from season to season, but on the same trees, shrubs, &c., as there is often a difference of nearly a week in the blooming of different kinds of fruit trees.

On the 15th of April we noticed ice and snow of the past winters accumulation, still left in small banks in the most shaded places in this city. This we never experienced before in this city. Although snow showers fall occasionally (melting nearly as fast as they fall) as late as this old ice and snow. We have scarcely known ice and snow to remain heretofore beyond the middle of Marco. As a contrast to the above the thermometer has risen higher in May than we ever recollect to have seen it. On the 23d it stood at 84° at the highest, and on the 24th at 91°.

Vegetation has come forward very rapidly during the month of May, and we suspect by the 10th of June, it will be about as forward as it usually is, when March and April have proved much milder than this season.

To Correspondents.—We have still on hand a large number of unanswered letters. We hope to bring all up "square" by the second week of this month.

☞ The suggestions of J. B. of Wisconsin will be attended to in due time.

Some excellent articles came in too late for this number–they will appear next month, when not out of season. We were sorry to leave over a good article on Selecting House Plants and Flowers, with descriptions of the best; it will be in time in the July issue.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):
Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.
No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.
By the column or half columo, $12 per column for the first nsertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

TO PUBLISHERS, EDITORS, &C.—

WANTED—By a young man of good scientific and practical education, a situation as

EDITOR OR ASSISTANT EDITOR,
of a weekly or monthly
AGRICULTURAL PAPER
of good standing. A
MODERATE SALARY

—which will be increased if the circulation of the work admits of it—is all that is required.

Specimens of composition sent and the best of references procured by applying to G. T. HAMMOND, "Hillside Farm," Farmingdale Post-office, Long Island. 113–115n62

HOW TO
BEAUTIFY YOUR GROUNDS.

Those who are about to build or improve their country or suburban residences, should avail themselves of the following valuable works on Landscape Gardening:

DOWNING'S LANDSCAPE GARDENING AND RURAL ARCHITECTURE.

This is Downing's best and most comprehensive work, and more than all other causes has contributed to the elevation of American taste for Rural Architecture and Landscape Gardening. It contains the fullest and most reliable catalogue of ornamental trees suitable for American soil and climate, with a description of the habits and Landscape effect of each. Beautifully and expensively illustrated. Price $3 50.

SMITH'S LANDSCAPE GARDENING, PARKS, AND PLEASURE GROUNDS.

With notes and additioos, by Lewis F. Allen. In all respects a reliable work for the American amateur. Plain and direct in all its instructions, and embraces within a small compass valuable notes on Country Houses, Villas, Pleasure Grounds, Parks, and Gardens. Price $1 25.

ALLEN'S RURAL ARCHITECTURE.

This is a book for the million. Containing descriptions of Cottages, Farm Houses, and Out Buildings of every kind, together with directions for laying out Lawns, Parks, Pleasure Grounds and Gardens. Finely illustrated. Price $1 25.

No one who has a house to build, a garden to make, a tree to plant, or a drive to lay out should be without one or all of these works.

To be obtained of all Booksellers, or sent by us pre-paid to any part of the Union on receipt of price.

C. M. SAXTON & CO.,
Agricultural Book Publishers, No. 140 Fulton-st., New-York.
113n67

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York,

offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf PEAR, CHERRIES, PEACHES, PLUMS, and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—116

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—

Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—116n1212N14 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

A GOOD TEMPERANCE HOUSE IN

New-York is a great desideratum, especially one kept on
THE EUROPEAN PLAN,
Where travelers and visitors can find
NEAT, QUIET ROOMS, WITH GOOD BEDS,
at moderate prices; and get their
MEALS WHENEVER OR WHEREVER DESIRED.
Such a HOTEL is
SAVERY'S TEMPERANCE HOUSE,
(On the European plan,)
at 14 Beekman-st., corner of Nassau, (In the Daily Times Block, near the Park and City Hall.)

This House contains 150 good rooms, all supplied with the best quality of hair mattrass beds, kept neat and clean. Prices 35 to 50 cents per night, including day occupancy; or $2 to $3 per week. Extra large rooms, $4 to $5 per week.

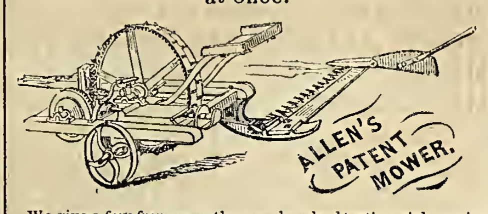
In the spacious Dining Rooms, gentlemen, with or without their ladies, can, at all hours, (from 6½ A. M. to 8 P. M.) obtain meals or lunches, paying only for what they may order. The bill of fare is made out in the Federal Currency, thus: Tea or Coffee, 3 cents per cup; Pies, Puddings, &c., 5 cents per plate, (not 6¼ cents;) Meats, with accompaniaments, 10 cents, 15 cents, and 20 cents per plate, (not 12½ cents, 18¾ cents, 25 cents.)

A temperance man, the editor of a leading journal of this city, says;

"* * SAVERY is, and always has been, a consistent temperance man, and he keeps his fine Hotel upon upright principles. * * * We are glad to inform our friends everywhere, that there is a GOOD, QUIET Home for them while stopping for a day or longer in this city, one every way worthy of their patronage, and where they will find fair accommodations on moderate terms. * * *" 112—tfn60

ALLEN'S MOWER AND REAPER,
THE BEST IN THE UNITED STATES.

To be sure of a Machine you should order at once.



We give a few from more than one hundred testimonials, copies of which can be had on application.

R. L. ALLEN, N. Y.—I have used Allen's Mower for two seasons, and have cut 70 to 80 tons fodder each season. We have used it in light and heavy grass, over rough and level surface, in wet and dry. The machine has succeeded admirably. It has not cost me $2 in two years. It is the best and most perfect mower I ever saw work, being of easy draught, and requiring no more than ordinary walk of horses to do the work well, cutting the grass as low and more level than any hand-mowing. I can cut with ease 12 acres in a day; and, with two horses, weighing 2,100 pounds, (the two.) can follow it day after day. I should like to see any improvement that may come along; but if I could not get such another as Allen's, I would not part with it for $1,000—indeed, for any money. I have had numbers of farmers see my mower work, and they all admit it is the best they ever saw work. JOHN GILES.
Woodstock, Conn., Oct. 25, 1855.

R. L. ALLEN, Sir:—I do not think a better mowing machine can be made than your Allen's Improved. I cut 19 tons of hay off 8 acres with it, and I was only four hours cutting it. Much of the grass was badly lodged and tangled; indeed, I had no idea that a mowing machine would work in it at all. The grass was cut in first-rate style, and no clogging. I have cut, in all, 60 acres, without a cent cost for repairs. It is easy of draught to the horses, and they can be walked slow or quick. It is compact and durable, and easily managed. I saw it worked at Flushing, in June last, when four different patent mowers were worked beside it. I was certainly impartial in my desire to choose the best machine; and I chose yours, (Allens,) as none of them could compare with it in the qualities I have named.
Patchogue, L. I., Nov. 10, 1855. AUSTIN ROE.

R. L. ALLEN, N. Y., Sir:—I can highly recommend your Allen Mower. It is easy draught for a pair of horses. I have used it in very heavy and lodged grass; it cut without clogging, and better than could be done with a scythe. It is durable, compact, and easily managed. FROST HORTON,
Of the firm of Minor & Horton.
Peekskill, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1855.

ATKINS' AUTOMATON:
OR,
SELF-RAKING REAPER AND MOWER,
BEST MACHINE IN USE.

1 (the first) used in 1852.
40 used successfully in 1853.
300 in twenty different States in 1854.
1200 in all parts of the Union in 1855.
3000 building for the harvest of 1856.

THERE ARE SIX GOOD REASONS for this unparalleled increase and great popularity: 1st. It is strong and reliable, and easily managed. 2d. It saves the hard labor of Raking. 3d. It saves at least another hand in binding. 4th. It saves shattering by the careful handling in raking; besides, the straw being laid straight, it is well secured in the sheaf, and does not drop in the after handling, and the heads are not exposed in the stack, so that the GRAIN SAVING even exceeds the LABOR SAVING. 5th. It is a good Mower, being one of the best convertible machines in use. 6th. It has a knife that does not choke.

Its other excellencies, too numerous to mention here, are fairly given in the circulars. Its intrinsic worth is also attested by the award (mostly in only 3 years) of

OVER 70 FIRST PREMIUMS!

PRICE.—Reaper and Mower, $200—$75 on its receipt, $75 first September, and $50 first December. Price of Self-Raking Reaper only $175. Considerable saving in freight to those at a distance who order prior to 1st March; also liberal discount for advance payment.

To secure a Machine, order immediately. Though so little known the past season, and none ready for delivery till 1st May, yet not two-thirds the customers could be supplied. The reputation of the machine is now widely established, so that THREE THOUSAND will not as nearly supply the demand as twelve hundred did last year, and we shall also be selling four months earlier.

☞ Order early, if you would not be disappointed.

Pamphlets giving IMPARTIALLY the opinions of Farmers, together with orders, notes, &c., mailed to applicants, and pre-paid.

☞ Write to us at Chicago, Ill.; Dayton, Ohio, or Baltimore, Md., whichever is nearest to you.

J. S. WRIGHT & CO.
"Prairie Farmer" Works, Chicago, Feb. 20, 1856. 110–113n27

R. L. ALLEN, Esq.—DEAR SIR:—Your

Mower (Allen's patent) was first tried on my place at West Farms, and worked greatly to our satisfaction. It was then sent to our farm at East Chester, and cut the entire crop—some 80 acres—without repair or breakage. It does the best work in the best manner, is of comparative easy draught, and cannot be clogged, however wet or soft the grass may be. I have recommended your Machine to my friends, feeling that I do them a service thereby. Sincerely yours,
EDWARD G. FAILE.
Woodside, Westchester, N. Y., Oct. 17, 1855. 111—12

KETCHUM'S MOWER AND MOWER AND REAPER.

MANNY'S	Mower and	Mower and	Reaper.
HUSSEY'S	do.	do.	do.
McCORMICK'S	do.	do.	do.
ATKINS'	do.	do.	do.
ALLEN'S	do.	do.	do.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st.

$1000 PREMIUM
FOR BEST MOWING MACHINE, 1856.

THE Trustees of the "Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture' hereby give notice that the premium of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS for the best Mowing Machine, is now open to all competitors.

To eotitle any one to compete for the Premium, he must enter the Mowing Machine, with full particulars of its principles of construction, weight, and selling price, with the subscriber, on or before the first day of JUNE, 1856.

Every competitor will be required, at his own cost, to exhibit to and submit a trial of his Machine to the Trustees, upon not less than five acres of grass land.

The Trustees likewise reserve the right of ordering further trials upon land of their selection, if they think it expedient or necessary to do so.

No competitor will be allowed to enter more than one Machine of a similar principle of construction, and he must have the legal right to make, sell and exhibit the same and those of a similar construction, for use within the State of Massachusetts.

The Trustees reserve the right of withholding the award of the Premium and continuiog it for another year, if no Machine is exhibited which in their opinion, does not by its labor and expense-saving properties over the common method of scythe mowing, recommend itself for general introduction and use.

Any further information will be given to persons applying for the same, by addressing the subscriber.

THOMAS MOTLEY, Jr.,
March 15.—111—113n39 Jamaica Plain, Mass.

BUCKWHEAT SEED;
TURNIP SEED;
GARDEN, FIELD and FLOWER SEEDS.

—A large supply of the most desirable varieties of Garden Seeds; a choice and good supply of Flower Seeds; and Grass Seeds of all kinds. Field Seeds—Wheat, Oats, Corn, Barley, &c.

We take great care to have all our seeds fresh and best of their kinds, and offer them for sale at wholesale or retail on most favorable terms. R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York

HARVESTING TOOLS.—GRANT'S, HARRIS', WILCOX'S, and other superior GRAIN CRADLES.

GRASS and LAWN SCYTHES of all the most approved Manufacturers.

SCYTHE SNEATHS, both wood and iron—superior articles.
HORSE and HAND HAY RAKES, of every variety.
WHETSTONES and SCYTHE RIFLES.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN.
189 and 191 Water st., New-York

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS.
PRICES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1856.

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING. A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city. WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st, New-York,
111—tfn41 or at New-Rochelle, N. Y.

AYLESBURY DUCKS EGGS.—A few sittings from prize birds, imported last season, from the best stock in Great Britain, will be furnished during the early part of June, at $10 per dozen.

R. C. McCORMICK, Jr.,
113n64 Woodhaven P. O., Queens County, Long Island.

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, &c.

Farmers who are desirous of importing stock this year, or of improving their flocks of sheep, either by a South Down, Cotswold or Leicester Buck, have now the opportunity of doing so by giving an order at once, as Thos. Betts & Co., of Liverpool, exporters of the above, are now at their agents, J. M. MILLER's. They leave for England in June, to attend Mr. Jonas Webb's annual sale of South Down sheep, and Mr. Wm. Lane's annual sale of Cotswold sheep, and the Royal Agricultural Cattle show to purchase any kind of stock on commission. The stock will be shipped for America early in August, so as to arrive in time to be exhibited at the State Shows in America. Apply to J. M. MILLER, No. 81 Maiden-lane, N. Y. 113n68

SHORT HORN BULL FOR SALE.

"GOVERNOR" (541) calved July 1853. Got by Monarch (718) out of Flora, by imported Duke of Exeter (449.) For full pedigree see 2d vol. Amer. Herd Book p. 153. He is a very fine animal and an excellent stock getter. Apply to J. F. SHEAFE, New Hamburg, Dutchess Co., N. Y., or to A. B. ALLEN, No. 191 Water-st., N. Y. 113n65

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE,
AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,
C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

SHEEP FOR SALE.

Two SHANGHAI RAMS and one
Thoroughbred SOUTHDOWN.
Apply to WILLIAM CAIRNS,
112—113n53 No. 30 Pine-st., New-York.

WILLIS'S
PATENT STUMP PULLER

This is a Machine of vast power; and for extracting stumps large or small, it has no equal. It will take out from 12 to 20 an hour, without difficulty, and with but a

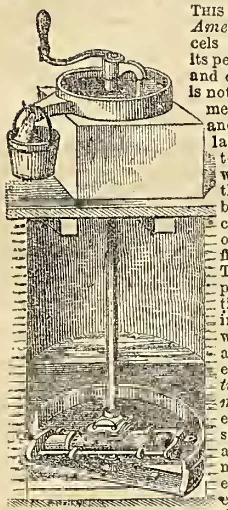
SINGLE YOKE OF OXEN.

It is also the best Machine yet invented for

MOVING BUILDINGS.

All progressive men who desire to bring their waste lands at once into market, or a state of fertility, are invited to address or call on the patentee, WM. W. WILLIS, Orange, Mass., or his agent John Raynolds, at C. M. Saxton & Co.'s No. 140 Fulton-st., N. Y., where a working model may be seen, and other information obtnined. 113n66.

Lindsey's Double-Acting
ROTARY FORCE PUMP.



THIS pump has just been patented in *America* and *England*, and far excels any pump heretofore invented; Its peculiarities are *simplicity, power*, and *cheapness*. Its simplicity; there is nothing about it but iron and cast metal, and it can be taken apart and put up by any one, and will last for an age. It has the power to raise water *hundreds of feet*, with the extra expense of $3 and the price of pipe. Water rises in it by hand 100 feet per minute! For cheapness; a No. 1. pump (for all ordinary purposes) complete, and fifty feet of pipe, costs but $30! The handle at the top, turns the pipe and pump, and every revolution fills the cylinder twice, affording an abundant supply of water with the least possible expense and labor. It is peculiarly adapted to *deep wells, rail road stations, salt works, mining and manufacturing purposes*. Wherever it is introduced, the old force, suction and chain pumps will disappear. Practical and scientific men pronounce it as without an equal, for all that is here claimed for it. The *Scientific American*, after seeing it in operation, says: "*This pump is very simple in construction, not liable to get out of order, durable, easily operated and economical; we regard it as an excellent improvement.*" Circulars with an accurate drawing and full description sent free of charge to all parts of the country. No. 1, has a one inch pipe; No. 2, 1¼ inches; No. 3, 1½ inches; and the prices $30, $42, $54; the No. 2 and 3 are designed for *very deep wells, railroad stations, &c.* where much water is required. The subscriber is the general agent for the sale of these pumps to all parts of the world, and *exclusive agent for* NEW YORK. Orders must be accompanied by the *cash*, and should be explicit as to the kind of pump wanted, depth of well, shipping address, &c. They will meet prompt attention. A pump and pipe weighs about 170 lbs. No charge for shipping or cartage. Wells over 50 feet should have extra gearing, which costs $3.

JAMES M. EDNEY,
Com. Merchant, 56 John St. N. Y.

For sale by H. LINDSEY, Inventor, Asheville, N. C.

113—118n69

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear,
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept* 4, 1855.

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation. (the plants which abound in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address, WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

N. B.—Plants will be furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs. 111—tfn42

NEW-ROCHELLE OR LAWTON BLACKBERRY.—The subscribers having devoted much attention to the cultivation of this new species of Blackberry for a number of years, have now the largest area of ground in cultivation of any in the country. Their Nursery, while in bearing, has been visited by thousands of persons from all parts of the States, and by all pronounced to be the "ne plus ultra."

Orders will be filled from our Grounds with great pleasure, at the following prices: One half-dozen, $2 50; One dozen, $5 00 Fifty, $12 50, and One Hundred, $25.

GEO. SEYMOUR & CO.
South-Norwalk, Conn., Jan. 20, 1850. 109—112n2

FRAZEE'S
PATENT UPRIGHT SAW-MILL.

This Mill was invented by Mr. Benjamin Frazee, an experienced mechanic, for which he received letters patent, dated October 18, 1853, since which time a large number of them have been put in operation in different parts of the United States, and their value and efficiency thoroughly tested by practical experiment. It has been examined by hundreds of the best mechanics and machinists in the country, and it has been admitted by all that for cheapness, durability, and efficiency, it is far superior to anything of the kind ever before produced, and that it must eventually take the place of nearly all the mills now in use.

ITS CONSTRUCTION.

It is composed of eight pieces of timber, from five to eight feet long; four pieces of plank, from four to six feet long; and about fifteen hundred pounds of iron; besides two long bed-pieces, a carriage, some small wooden fixtures, pulleys, &c. The common up-and-down saw, six and one-half or seven feet long, is used without sash-gate or muley, and will saw timber of the largest or smallest size It is so very simple in its construction that it has but few bearings, and consequently but little friction, end will therefore require much less power to drive it, than the more complicated mills now in general use. As much of the cumbrous machinery of other mills, such as large heavy frames, sash-gates, &c., is dispensed with in this, it is much less liable to get out of order; while its simplicity enables any one of ordinary mechanical ability to repair or build it. The amount of repairs required with fair usage is of insignificant import. Another advantage of this mill is, that its work is superior in smoothness and straightness, and that it cuts away less of the lumber than most other mills.

ITS PORTABILITY.

One great point of superiority in the mill is its portebility—the ease with which it can be moved from place to place—taking the few pieces with which it is composed to the logs, instead of hauling the logs from long distances to the mill. This fact in regard to the mill renders the purchase of it, in all cases, a safe investment, as it will always be saleable property. The whole establishment, mill, engine, and boiler, with three or four ox teams, can be easily moved at the rate of from ten to twenty miles per day. Thus, when it has done its work at one place, it is ready to move on, either upon the mountains, in the valleys, or wherever the forest may require its labor.

HOW MUCH IT WILL DO.

Any one of these mills, with our smallest power (eight horse,) is capable of cutting over 6,000 feet of ordinary inch boards every twenty-four hours. It may be made to do much more then this, by an extraneous effort; in fact, one in operation near this city, driven only by a five-horse power, has frequently been timed by a watch, and made to saw at the rate of nine hundred feet per hour. Allowing it, however, to cut but three thousand feet per day, it will at once be perceived by all who are experienced in the business, that in efficiency it has no equal. As it is usually run with steam power, the delays which other mills are often subjected to, waiting for water, or having too much water, repairing dams, &c., are entirely avoided.

PRICE OF MILL WITHOUT POWER.

We furnish these mills, with bolts, screws, belting, saws, forty-eight feet of segments for carriages, and everything all complete, excepting two-long bed-pieces and the carriage, for

FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS.

The segments we furnish for carriage are sufficient to saw timber twenty-four feet long; but when it is desirable to saw timber more than that length, an extra charge will be made for extra length of segments. A draft, carefully explained and numbered, will be sent with each mill, so that the parts may be readily and accurately put together. The two bed-pieces spoken of should be timber forty-eight feet long and twelve by fourteen inches through, to which the mill is bolted. There being but little work upon them, it is more desirable to get them where the mill is erected, especially as they would be expensive to transport. The Mill alone weighs about 2,500 pounds.

PRICES OF MILLS WITH POWERS.

The engines and boilers furnished with these Mills are constructed especially for it, and we believe are better calculated for the purposes to which they are designed than any that could be obtained from other manufactories.

The first size is a boiler 10 feet long, 24 tubes 2 1-2 inches in diameter and 7 1-2 feet long, shell over the fire box 44 inches in diameter, shell over the tubes 34 inches in diameter, and engine of 7 inch cylinder and 15 inch stroke. This is a large eight-horse power, and is sufficient to drive the Mill with any rapidity in the hardest and heaviest timber. It is sold with the Mill—the whole establishment weighing about 6,500 pounds—for

TWELVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS.

The second size is a boiler 11 1-2 feet long, 25 tubes 2 1-4 inches in diameter, and 7 1-2 feet long, shell over the fire-box 44 inches in diameter, shell over the tubes 34 inches in diameter, engine same as that described above (7 inch cylinder and 15 inch stroke,) excepting that it has extra connections. This is the power that we are now mostly selling with the Mill. It may be rated as good ten horse, and is capable of driving the Mill, together with some other machinery at the same time, such as circular saw for sawing slabs, lath, and other light work. As a little surplus power is always of advantage, we usually recommend this power. It is sold with the mill—the whole weighing about 7,500 pounds—for

FOURTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS.

The third size is a boiler 11 1-2 feet long, 25 tubes 2 1-4 inches in diameter and 7 1-2 feet long, shell over the fire-box 44 inches in diameter, shell over the tubes 34 inches in diameter, engine 8 inch bore and 18 inch stroke. This is a very large ten-horse power, and is rated by some manufacturers as high as twelve-horse. It is sold with the Mill—the whole weighing about 8,000 pounds—for

FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS.

Parties can have larger powers than either of the above for an advance of $100 on each additional horse-power. In these prices smoke pipes, connections, and everything necessary for running are included, and the whole establishment is so put up and boxed, that there is no danger of losses on the way. The Mill may be put up and at work in two or three days after its receipt, at any given place. No building is required, unless the parties choose to erect a rough shed to protect it and the operators from the weather; nor is there any mason-work required for the machinery.

The following letter, selected from a large number of like import, expresses the general estimation in which the Mill is held, after a practical trial. It is proper for us to state that Mr. Hoyt's Mill is driven with one of our eight-horse powers:—

GRIGGSTOWN, N. J.

MR. FRAZEE—Dear Sir—We have now finished putting up the Portable Saw-Mill; have had it running about two weeks, and I MUST praise it. I, as well as the people in this neighborhood, are astonished at its performance. In a word, it runs to our complete satisfaction, and will do all that it was recommended to do. So far as fuel is concerned, the green slabs are sufficient to keep up steam, and now, since putting our exhaust-pipe on our smoke-stack, we can burn up all our dust, thereby saving still more of our fuel—at least one-half. I shall be very happy to show the Mill to all who desire to examine it. Respectfully, G. HOYT,

This Mill may be driven by water power, or any other power that is capable of driving ordinary machinery. We do not think it good economy to use water power when steam power can be obtained as cheap as offered above; yet, when preferred, this Mill possesses all the advantages over other Mills when driven by water power, as when driven by steam, except portability. Several of them driven by water power are now doing good service on streams not large enough to drive ordinary Mills at all.

We make no extra charges for boxing and delivering the Mill and Machinery on board of any line of transportation in this city that may be designated, obtaining the shipping receipts, insurance, and agreements necessary; but we do not agree in any case to deliver it out of the city. The freight on the entire establishment amounts to about five dollars per hundred miles when sent by land, but when shipped by water it is considerably less.

The number of persons required to attend this Mill is two, or one man and a boy. Any small spring will afford a sufficient quantity of water for the boiler.

Strangers visiting the city are respectfully invited to call at our office, and we will direct them to one of these Mills in operation in this City, which is now being visited by large numbers every day. We would suggest to those living at a distance, and who desire a personal examination, that they write to some friend in New-York to make the investigation for them.

The first purchaser of a Mill in any locality is appointed the exclusive Agent of the vicinity, and is allowed a handsome commission on all the Mills and machinery he can sell. No other Agents are wanted.

J. M. EMERSON & CO.,
113-114n68 No. 1 Spruce-st., New-York.

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz: Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—DRAINING and IRRIGATION in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines, wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission. SHIPMAN & HAMMOND.
111—121n48 No. 63 Trinity Buildings, 111 Broadway, N. Y.

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,
(QUEENS PATENT,)

THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shipping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—116n1190N8

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

HARROWS; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, &c.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

A WORD TO FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN.—If you have butter, poultry, eggs, or any other articles of table use, which you will sell low for cash please apply to the principal Express Agent in your neighborhood. Likely, we will put him in funds to buy of you if we can agree upon prices.

We are in want of half a tun of nice turkeys, chickens and geese, every week, at our Express Produce Store, No. 33 Broadway. A tun or two of first rate table butter, upon consignment, to sell to consumers would be very acceptable.

Commission for effecting sales, for cash, five per cent, and NO OTHER CHARGES WHATEVER.

A. L. STIMSON,
Agent for the Sale of Farmers' Produce, and the purchase of Goods ordered by Express, No. 33 Broadway, New-York.

REFERENCES—The American Express Company; Wells, Butterfield & Co.; the Adams Express Company; the National Express Company; Thompson & Co.'s Express; and Cheney, Fiske & Co.'s. 110tfn32

THE SCHOOL BELL,

A LARGE QUARTO WEEKLY PAPER, designed for the amusement and instruction of youth, containing choice stories, poetry, games, puzzles, familiar science, and the news of the day, adapted to the wants and wishes of scholars in our public and private schools. Edited and published

BY STEPHEN ANGELL, Morrisania, N. Y.

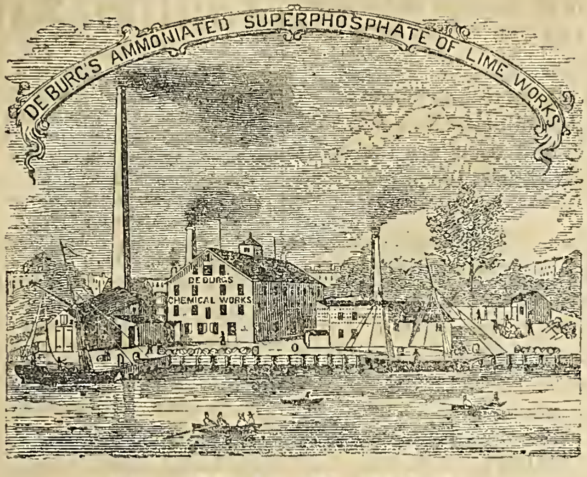
TERMS.—Single copy, by mail, a year, 75 cents; five copies, $3; ten copies, $5, and at same rate for larger numbers.

We will send ten copies for ten weeks, to one address, for one dollar, and at the end of that time the subscription can be renewed.

Twenty copies, postage paid to any part of the United States, $12, and at the same rate for that number for a shorter period—thus, for $1, we send 20 copies free of postage for one month.

Postage on the School Bell, throughout Westchester Co., free; within the State, 3 1-4 cents a quarter, paid in advance; and to any part of the United States, 6 1-2 cents.

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasonable price R. L. ALLEN, 189 Water-st.


DE BURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DE BURGS CHEMICAL WORKS

D BURG'S
AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my proposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to statethat many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feb. 1st(orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City.

CASH PRICE, $50 per ton of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

C. B. DeBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I.
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.

109—116n

FISH GUANO.—The NARRAGANSETT MANUFACTUING COMPANY, of Providence, R. I., are now prepared to execute orders for their FISH GUANO. They have prepared their Guano after two methods. One by chemically treating, cooking and then drying and grinding the fish to a powder. This is put in bags and sold at $45 per ton.— The other variety is prepared as above (with the exception of drying and grinding,) and is then combined with an absorbant which is in itself a valuable fertilizer, and sold at two dollars per bbl. containing about 200 lbs. The compost is of great strength, and must be a very efficient fertilizer, as it is composed in great part of simple flesh and bones of fish.

Dr. Chas. T. Jackson, of Boston, has made an analysis of the Powder, and says:

"It is similar to the Peruvian Guano in composition, with the exception that the ammonial matter is dried flesh of fish, and not yet putrefied, so as to be ammoniacal. It will, however, produce ammonia by decomposition in the soil. One hundred grains of this manure, dried and finely pulverised, was submitted to analysis, with the following result:

ANALYSIS.

Ammonial matter (flesh or fish) - - - -	48.00
Phosphate of Lime - - - - - -	33 90
Carbonate of Lime - - - - - - - -	7.60
Sulphate of Lime - - - - - - - -	6.40
Potash of Soda - - - - - - - - -	4.10
	100.00

Respectfully your obedient servant,
CHARLES T. JACKSON,
Assayer to the State of Massachusetts."

Dr. Jackson's opinion of our Guano is expressed in the following note:

Boston, March 9, 1855.

S B. Halliday, Esq.—Dear Sir: In reply to your letter, I would state my entire confidence in the superiority of a properly prepared artificial guano, made from fishes, over that of the natural guano of birds, obtained from the coast of Peru.

It is obvious that more of the nitrogenous, or ammonia-producing substances, exist in fish prepared after your method, than are found in any guano, and hence the artificial preparation will go further in the fertilization of a soil.

The ammoniacal salts act chiefly in bringing the foliage into a healthy and luxuriant condition, and thus cause the plant to absorb more of the phosphate and other necessary salts and substances from the soil, and more carbonic acid from the air. The carbonate of ammonia, also, is a solvent for humus, and it quickly saturates any injurious acid salts that may exist in the soil, and forms from some of them valuable fertilizers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. T. JACKSON, M. D., State Assayer, &c.

This manure is offered to agriculturists with the assurance of its becoming one of the most popular to be obtained. The Company are ready to establish agencies at such places as are desirable for the convenience of farmers. As the supply for the season is rather limited, the Company would esteem it a favor to have orders forwarded early to enable them to lay down at their agencies the requisite quantities in proper time for use. Orders may be addressed to the Company at Providence, or to R. L. Allen, N. Y.; R. H. Pease, Albany; Geo. Buck. Hartford.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Agent.
No, 22 West Water-st., Providence, R. I.
Providence, Jan. 15, 1856. 109—114u16

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful sciences Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No. 119 Washington-st., Boston, Sample copies sent when ordered

---

PERUVIAN GUANO—*At lowest market prices*, wholesale and retail—with Government weight and brand on each bag, for sale at the

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT AND SEED
Warehouse of R. L. ALLEN,
Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

ALLEN'S CELEBRATED MOWING MACHINE
CANNOT CLOG.

TO FARMERS AND GARDENERS.—Your attention is called to the Manures manufactured by the LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY from the contents of the sinks and privies of New-York city, and free from offensive odor, called

POUDRETTE AND TAFEU.

Poudrette is composed of two-thirds night soil and one-third decomposed vegetable fiber. Tafeu is composed of three-fourths night soil and one-fourth No. 1 Peruvian Guano.

These manures are cheaper and better adapted for raising Corn, Garden Vegetables and Grass, than any other in market. Can be put in contact with the seed without injury, and causes Corn and seeds to come up sooner, ripen two weeks earlier, and yield one-third more than other manures, and is a SURE PREVENTIVE of the Cut Worm.

Two bbls. Poudrette or 100 lbs. Tafeu, will manure an acre of Corn in the hill. Tafeu 1¾ cents per pound. Poudrette $2 per barrel, or $1 50 for any quantity over seven barrels, delivered on board vessel or railroad free from any charge for package or cartage. A pamphlet, containing every information, sent, post-paid, to any one sending their address to

THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
109—113n17 No. 60 Courtlandt-st., New-York.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

BEST No. 1 Peruvian GUANO.

BONE DUST, ground and sawings.
Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

VALUABLE AND CHEAP PROPERTY
FOR SALE IN MORRISTOWN, N. J.

The subscriber offers his property for sale. The improvements are one new two-story House, with tin roof, containing seven rooms, beside garret and cellar the full size of the house.

There are nearly four acres of good clay ground, with a never-failing stream of water running through; located on the Washington Turnpike within three minutes walk of the Railroad depot. The garden is well stocked with Fruit Trees of the choicest varieties, particularly Pears. There is also a very valuable orchard of bearing Orange-Quince trees—nearly 100.

A rare opportunity for a cash purchaser. Title indisputable.
110tfn21 Wm. DAY.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL
OVER TWO MILLION OF ACRES
OF
FARMING LANDS,
IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,
ON LONG CREDIT AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and include some of the richest and most fertile prairies in the State, interspersed here and there with magnificent groves of oak and other timber. The road extends from Chicago, on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the north-west extreme of the State, and as all the lands lie within fifteen miles on each side of this road, ready and cheap means are afforded by it for transporting the products of the lands to any of those points, and from thence to Eastern and Southern markets Moreover, the rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages along the line, and the great increase in population by immigration, etc., afford a substantial and growing home demand for farm produce.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep, or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken sod, usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from $2 to $2 50 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern market, and to Cairo for the Southern. The larger yield on the cheap lands of Illinois over the high-priced lands in the Eastern and Middle States, is known to be much more than sufficient to pay the difference of transportation to the Eastern market.

Bituminous coal is mined at several points along the road, and is a cheap and desirable fuel. It can be delivered at several points along the road at $1 50 to $4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord.

Those who think of settling in Iowa or Minnesota, should bear in mind, that lands there of any value, along the water courses, and for many miles inland, have been disposed of—that for those located in the interior, there are no conveniences for transporting the produce to market, railroads not have been introduced there. That to send the produce of these lands one or two hundred miles by wagon to market, would cost much more than the expense of cultivating them; and hence, Government lands thus situated, at $1 25 per acre, are not so good investments as the land of this Company at the prices fixed.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road, and others with which it connects, the operation, of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from $5 to $25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made during the year 1856, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, $150 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

Special arrangements with dealers can be made to supply those purchasing the Company's lands with fencing materials, agricultural tools, and an outfit of provisions in any quantity, at the lowest wholesale prices.

It is believed that the price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter. in English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.
Office, up to the 1st of May, No. 52 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. After that date, in the new stone Passenger Depot, foot of South Water-street. 112—117n5

TEACH CHILDREN TO LOVE NATURE.

School teachers may do much, and parents may do more, to implant in the minds of the young an enthusiastic and profitable love of nature. We mean by this, animals and inanimate nature; the birds and beasts, the butterflies and insects, as well as the plants and flowers, the trees and the hills.

Teachers in the summer schools may give such lessons every day as shall make a child happier and more useful every day he lives. Show them the beauty of a Spring morning; teach them the colors and changes of morning and evening clouds, and the kinds and forms of noonday clouds. Help them to observe the bursting buds of spring, the growing foliage of summer, the ripening fruits of autumn, and the cold, dead sleep of winter. Quicken the power of observation, and the sharpness of the reason, by noticing and reflecting on all these changes, their causes and reasons. And you will be doing more for the children, to keep them from vice, than many direct moral exhortations.

The man who loves nature, its wonderful phenomena, its glowing beauties, its divine significance, and sees beyond all these a God of majestic goodness, can hardly be vicious or unhappy. Every morning, noon, and evening, he is filled with profiting reflections, and with improving emotions. Such an one is a better citizen, a better friend, a better neighbor, a better father, brother or christian. We say, then, to all teachers, improve the summer to make your children love nature better, and teach them also how to adorn and improve it; how to plant and tend flowers in the garden, shrubs on the lawn, and trees by the roadside; how, in fine, to make this world of beauty more worthy of being the residence of intelligence and goodness.

One's Mother.—Around the idea of one's mother the mind of man clings with fond affection. It is the first dear thought stamped upon our infant hearts, when soft and capable of receiving most profound impressions, and all the after feelings are more or less light in comparison. Our passions and our wilfulness may lead us far from our filial love; we may become wild, headstrong and angry at her counsels or opposition; but when death has stilled her monitory voice, and nothing but calm memory remains to recapitulate her good deeds, affection, like a flower beaten to the ground by a rude storm, raises up her head and smiles amidst her tears. Around that idea, as we have said, the mind clings with fond affection; and even when the earlier period of our loss forces memory to be silent, fancy takes the place of remembrance and twines the image of our departed parent with a garland of graces and beauties and virtues, which we doubt not that she possessed.

Geology.—Geology supplies us the medals of the past; the worlds history is written on stones; link by link we unite the chain which assures us of a Divine architect.

A vine, like a soldier, is trained—has tendrils—and shoots.

If you want to be honored and beloved, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

"Our party is the bone and sinew of the country," said an electioneering office-holder to a farmer. "And what are the bones and sinews worth without the brains?" replied the farmer.

Loss of Appetite.—The Russian bear at first tried to swallow the whole of a Turkey, but afterwards begged only for a peace!

"Grandma," said a little urchin, "your specs are upside down. Do you wear them thus to *see* to *sew*.'

"No, my dear; I wear them *so* to *see*."

INDEX.

Blackberry vines killed in Kentucky....206
Calendar of Operations, June, 1856.......Editorial..194
Camels for U. S. Army....Editorial..196
Cattle—Comet....(Illustrated)..204
" —Fairy....(Illustrated)..205
Cheese making, Farmer's wife on....204
Children, Teach them to love Nature....216
Corn Experiments, Premiums for........N'Importe..201
" Starting Early and protecting....199
" Principal varieties....202
Correspondents, Notes to....212
Cows, Milk fever—how prevented....Com..204
" To prevent holding up Milk........Editorial..203
Curculio Premiums....209
Dog-breaking....Editorial..200
Exhibitions, Agricultural for 1856....199
Gardens and Flowers....207
Garden, cheap watering and manuring....Editorial..209
Grasshoppers, where they come from....203
Grave, the little Winter....Poetry..211
Guano, recent experiments on grass.......Editorial..196
Hay Caps....Editorial..196
Hybridizing Plants....Editorial..197
Irrigation....Editorial..198
Land, Economy in the use of....U. R. T..206
Lawns, Directions for dressing....Editorial..205
Lucerne....Editorial..196
Manure absorbents....Editorial..196
Marriage, getting ready for....211
Mice, Ravages of....Editorial..206
Millet, Experience in raising....203
Milking, frequent....205
Molasses, Boiling....203
Mother, One's....216
N. J. Agricultural Exhibition,....Editorial..212
Painting and Papering, Mrs. Brown's....Anna Hope..210
Pasturage for dry Weather....Editorial..194
Poetry sobered down....211
Potatoes, how planted in Southern N. J........Petit..198
Poultry, Lady's Experience with chickens...Huldah..210
Prices, Weather &c., Review of....Editorial..212
Radishes, not fit to eat....Editorial..209
Rats, novel method of expelling....211
Rattle Snake bite cured....194
Scratching Pole....205
Spring, song for....207
Strawberry freak....209
" after treatment of....Editorial..209
Strychnine Lard not an antidote....212
Stump Puller, Willis's....Illustrated..201
Tim Bunker's view of the Bird Law........Editorial..197
Turnip growing, a Farmer's Experience....199
Waterloo Correspondence....S. W..201
West, Eastern Farmers Going—No. 3.....Editorial..200
Western Farm Lands—Inquiries about....199
Woman and the Garden....208
Work for the Month....Editorial..193

Business Notices.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

☞ Back Numbers and Back Volumes.—We have no more of these to spare, previous to Vol. XII—our entire extra edition up to that time having been exhausted.

Of Vols. XII, XIII and XIV, we have several sets, which will be furnished so long as they last, at $1, unbound, or $1 50, neatly bound in muslin.

☞ Back numbers of the present volume can only be supplied from May. Of the May and June numbers we have printed a very large extra edition,—probably enough to meet all demands.

American Agriculturist.

FIFTEENTH VOLUME

A Leading and Standard Agricultural Journal,

devoted to the development and improvement of every department of Soil Culture, and adapted equally to the circumstances and wants of those who cultivate small plots of ground or large farms.

It is designed to collect and communicate plain, practical, and reliable information upon the

Selection of Seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various Field and Garden Crops; Fruit Growing; Care, Treatment and Improvement of all kinds of Domestic Animals; the Construction and Embellishment of Farm Buildings; Housing, Preserving, and Marketing the Products of the Farm, Orchard, Garden and Dairy; and to the Domestic or Household labors of the Rural Home.

The proprietor of the Agriculturist—having been trained from childhood to the active labors of a large farm embracing a varied culture, and having devoted a dozen years to studying the principles lying at the foundation of improved soil culture in schools, in the field, in the laboratory, and in traveling for observation—trusts that he will be able to set before the readers of this journal such a collection of sound and practical information as will be to each a continual source of valuable knowledge.

Having no connection, directly or indirectly, with any other business whatever, and owning and controling the columns of this paper, the Editor claims to be entirely independent of all influences which, under other circumstances, might be supposed to modify or govern his opinions or teachings.

Those gentlemen whose labors have contributed so much in years past to the value of the pages of the Agriculturist, still feel a lively interest in its continued and increased prosperity, and they promise their editorial assistance. ☞ The best editorial aid to be found in the country will be continually sought for.

The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month in which it is dated.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ In addition to the above rates:

Postage to Canada	12 cents.
Postage to Europe	24 cents.
Delivered in New-York city	12 cents.

The paper is considered paid for wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

WEEKLY NEWS, MARKET REPORTS, &C.

By an arrangement with Messrs. Raymond, Wesley & Co., Proprietors of the New York Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly TIMES, the Editor of the Agriculturist is engaged to prepare the Agricultural Department of their papers, including the Reports of the New-York Cattle Markets, &c. The WEEKLY TIMES contains all the matter of the Daily and Semi-Weekly on these subjects, including reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world. (In answer to inquiries it should be stated that Mr. Judd's responsibility for articles in the Times extends only to the Agricultural department.

Those desiring it will be furnished by the Proprietor of the Agriculturist with the two papers combined, as follows:

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 25
Ten copies of both papers one year	17 00

Agents, &c.—Mr. C. Taber, and Mr. A. Whitman, are regularly employed in the office of the American Agriculturist. They will make occasional tours into various parts of the country, to collect notes of the practice and experience of Farmers and Gardeners; and to attend to business matters connected with subscriptions and advertisements. They will at all times carry credentials and regular receipts and other documents of the Office. Any information or assistance rendered to them will be duly appreciated by the Publisher.

Mr. Wm. Lloyd Bowers, of Providence, is our regular accredited agent for Rhode Island, and the adjacent parts of Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

Printed by R. Cunnington, 191 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 10.]

NEW-YORK, JULY, 1856.

[NEW SERIES—No. 114.

☞ **The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor at 191 Water-st. (near Fulton).**

☞ **All Business and other letters should be addressed to** ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st.,
New-York City.

☞ Personal Letters, or those for the Editor only should be marked *Private.*

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

> "Now comes July and with his fervid noon
> Unsinews labor. The swinkt mower sleeps;
> The weary maid rakes feebly; the warm swain
> Pitches his load reluctant; the faint steer,
> Lashing his sides, draws sulkly along
> The slow encumbered wain in midday heat."

The hay month has at length come. A new sound breaks upon the ear, at early morning, in the meadow. The farmer has gone out in the cool of the day to begin his haying. Listen now, and you will hear the sound of the whet stone upon the ringing steel, as he sets the edge of his scythe before he thrusts it into the thick grass. It has grown so rapidly, that it is already lodged, and must be immediately cut. It is a pleasant sound to hear, mingling with the morning song of the robins and the bobolinks. Let us draw near, and look at this meadow where the mower is at work. Hark! the murmur of bees comes up from the blooming clover, and a fragrance is wafted upon the dewy air, sweeter than all the odors Lubin ever compounded for the toilet of the Parisian belle. See how the nodding grass falls before the sharp steel, and hear that peculiar sound which follows every clip of the scythe; neither a buzz nor a whirr, a squeak nor a squeal, a creak nor a click, but a sound unlike all others with which we are familiar. It is music to the mower's ear, and the whole gang of workmen keep stroke to the sound. Here is a field of three acres of heavy grass, and it will take six men all the forenoon to cut it down.

But this music of the mower's is destined soon to pass away. It is a slow laborious process to gather the hay harvest by this method, and already the supplanter of the scythe is in the field, and you hear the sharp rattle of the horse mower from the adjacent fields. A six acre field is cut in a single morning, and farmer Ready has nothing to do but hold the reins. It is cut smooth, and admirably spread for drying at one process. The men of the scythe look over the fence with mingled astonishment, and skepticism. They do not yet believe in the new fangled machine, and yet it works so easily, that they can not help wishing, that farmer Ready's horses were at work on their side of the fence. They are expecting to see the machine break down at every round, but to their surprize it sweeps on, and the standing plot of grass "grows small by degrees and *beautifully* less." He stops to breathe his horses a little, and to tighten a screw, and they think his career is ended. "They knew it would be so. Them new things are always giving out." But now he is upon his seat again, and away goes the team until the whole is finished, the work of six men done up in as many hours with no backaches, and over taxing of the muscles. No new implement has more befriended the farmer than THE MOWING MACHINE. It relieves him of the most exhausting labor, at a period of the year, when it is most difficult to procure extra help. It substitutes brute muscle, for that of man, and is a great triumph of mind over matter. Therefore we say to all who can afford it, buy a good machine, and try it this season. Farmers of smaller means might easily combine, and own one in common. One machine would easily do the mowing upon a dozen ordinary farms. But

HAYING

is not yet generally carried on with these machines, and we have to adapt our remarks to the scythe and the human mower. Judgment is necessary in selecting the proper time for cutting grass. It is often neglected too long. Fields badly lodged are not cut until the bottom is badly lodged or even rotten. This is very poor economy. Whatever extra help is needed to cut the grass seasonably, let it be engaged as early as possible, and when the grass comes into full bloom cut it at once. It should not be dried too much. In a bright July sun, red top and herd's grass spread early in the morning, and frequently stirred, will make enough in one day to go into the barn. It greatly injures the quality of the fodder to have the juices fairly burnt out of it, as is often the case, by excessive curing. A little salt may be added to the hay with advantage, as it is put away in the mow.

THE GRAIN HARVEST.

This is begun this month. The cutting of wheat, barley, rye, and oats, is often delayed until the grain is over ripe. All these grains should be cut before the seed is perfectly dry and hard. When the stalks are dry immediately beneath the head, and the starch of the grain is in the form of a thick paste, it is ready to cut. If left beyond this, the grain is apt to fall out of the husk, and much of it is lost. The early cut grain too will make more bread, and of a better quality. The straw will be better, especially if you wish to use it for fodder.

THRESHING GRAIN.

If you wish it for seed, it should be done with the flail. In all the threshing machines with which we are acquainted many of the kernels are broken, or cracked, so that they will not sprout. Any reasonable man will be glad to pay an extra price for seed threshed with the flail. Seed grain too should be religiously kept free from all foul seed. It is not only a great nuisance, but a fraud to sell chess among wheat, cockles among barley, Canada thistles among oats and daises among clover. The buyer purchases only pure seed. The seller has no right to put upon him a foul article.

HOEING.

We trust the hoes are not hung up for the season. They were never more needed than now, amid the parching heats of July. The corn greatly needs rain. Hoe it, and you can raise moisture thereby from the earth to meet its necessities. Thorough tillage will do what Elijah's prayers did, bring rain—from the clods, if it do not bring it from the clouds. There will be some days, when the grass will not make hay, if you cut it. Keep the cultivator and hoes moving, and increase the corn and potato crops.

TURNIPS.

With the last hoeing in July, some have found it a good plan, to sow turnip seed among their corn. They claim that it will not materially diminish the yield of grain, and will give a good yield of turnips merely for the labor of gathering them. It may be worth while to try the experiment, on a small scale, and note the results.

RUTA BAGAS

should be sown early this month, in well prepared drills. We have found home-made superphosphate of lime as well as that of DE BURG's make, an excellent manure for this crop. These roots usually command a good price in the market, for table use. If there is a surplus, it is profitably fed to cattle.

LATE CABBAGES.

It is now time to set these. They may follow early peas, or rare ripe onions, lettuce, or radishes. They may be set between rows of potatoes, that are to be dug this month. They are a good succession crop, and may occupy any waste spot, in the field or garden. A table spoonful of superphosphare of lime around each plant will push them forward vigorously.

KEEP THE GARDEN CLEAN.

Weeds grow apace this hot weather, and should not be allowed to choke the growth of the crops. Not a solitary weed should be suffered to go to seed. Forestall future labor by keeping them down.

SAVE THE SOAP SUDS.

Plants fed with this delicacy will show their keeping almost immediately. Try it especially upon your melons, cucumbers, and squashes. The weather is now right for these tropical plants. Apply the suds, and see them grow. See in our last number, "How we water and Manure *our* Garden."

PHYSICAL HEALTH.

While offering these suggestions for the welfare of the readers crops, we must beg him not too overlook himself. Of all things we Americans are most prodigal of health. We keep the main chance so constantly in our eye, that long before the goal of our ambition is reached, we have no health left to enjoy our accumulations. The farmer's labors are indeed pressing, but it will be unwise to gather his harvests at the expense of his health. Retire and rise early. The morning hour is much the best for labor. In the days of extreme heat, rest at noon at least one hour after dinner. Nothing will suffer, while the hay is making. Never be in a hurry. With the hay caps on hand, you can save your hay from the coming shower, without carting it into the barn. Do not fret or scold at any thing, and pursue the even tenor of your way amid all the trials and petty vexations of this busy month. Avoid stimulants of all kinds as a beverage. Beware of ice water when heated. Eat sparingly of meats. If your garden is what every farmers ought to be it will now furnish you with your richest repasts, good fresh vegetables, melting strawberries, raspberries, and blackberries, which with sugar and milk are both pleasant and nutritious.—Ed.

CORN AND MILLET FOR FODDER.

The present prospect is that there will be an abundance of grass throughout the country,—still no one having neat stock should omit to sow a greater or less quantity of corn or millet, not only for cutting and drying as winter forage, but especially for feeding during the month of August, and early in September, should the weather chance to be so hot and sultry as to dry up the pastures. Nothing keeps cattle in better heart during the warmest days, than to cut up and throw before them a daily mess of green corn stalks or millet. We earnestly advised that these should be sown or drilled in last month, but it is not entirely too late yet, to sow a plot or two. Any vacant ground will answer. Both corn and millet may be cut when only one-half or one-third grown. Whatever portion is not required for green fodder, may be cut up at any stage of growth, and dried before the first or middle of October, and then stored like hay for winter. The owner of but one-half or one-fourth of an acre, may use all his vacant ground—say where early vegetables or roots have been removed for raising a little crop of corn-stalk feed for his cow.—[Ed.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

JULY 1856.

[We propose to give from month to month, besides our leading article, "Work for the Month," a calendar of some of the more important operations in the field, garden, &c. These are adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 42°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north, earlier south. An early season, or a late one advances or retards operations, so that we shall need to revise and adapt these tables to each year. The letters f. m. l. refer to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month. Doubling the letters thus: ff., mm., or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

THE FIELD.

Buckwheat—sow ff. to m., from the 10th to the 20th, will answer, though the earlier in the month the better.

Cabbages—plant out ff. to m., especially among early potatoes.

Corn—may still be sown ff. for feeding, or soiling.

Hay—must be cut as ready. It should not be allowed to become too dry before cutting, nor be left spread out in heavy dews at night.

Hoeing—should not be neglected, though hoes must in a measure give place to scythes and cradles this month.

Hogs—should now have the range of a pasture or orchard; continue carting mold, peat, leaves &c., to their yards. A most valuable manure will thus be produced.

Manures—attend to as last month.

Oats—if sowed early may require cutting ll.

Pastures—change often. Small pastures frequently fed are preferable to having large ones trampled over.

Potatoes—early ones may now be dug for market, use the ground for cabbages, turnips, &c.

Rye and Wheat—see article elsewhere.

Turnips—Ruta-bagas sow ff. m., white globe and strap leaf may be sown m. ll.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Asparagus—keep, free from weeds, and stop cutting which is injurious to the bed if longer continued.

Beets and Carrots—may be resown ff. where failures have occurred; thin out those two thick, using the small beets with their tops for greens.

Brocoli—plant out ff. m.

Cabbages—plant out ff. to m.; hoe often; sow f. m. l. for collards.

Carrots—hoe and thin ff. m. l.

Cauliflower—plant out ff. to m.

Celery—plant out winter crop mm. l.; have the trenches dug and manured previously; earth up early plantings slightly f. m. l.

Cucumbers—plant for pickles f. m.

Endive—sow main crop m. to l.

Garlic—take up as wanted for use.

Herbs—cut herbs for drying when in full bloom; Chamomile flowers, summer savory, burnett, mints, balm, rue, wormwood, &c. &c., may be gathered this month.

Hoe—keep the hoes BRIGHT this month—well oiled with "elbow grease."

Leeks—weed and thin out for use f. m. l.; plant out ff. for winter use.

Lettuce—and small salads sow for succession and Autumn use f. m. l.

Onions—sow for bulbs to set out in the Spring, ff. to m.

Parsnips—weed and thin.

Peas—may still be sown ff.; better soak for two or three hours in soft water.

Potatoes—hoe ff., do not use the hoe much after the tubers are formed but pull weeds with the hand; dig early ones using the ground for cabbages, turnips, &c.

Radishes—sow f. m. l.

Raspberries—hoe often; cut out old canes, after they are done bearing.

Seeds—gather as they ripen.

Spinach—sow f. m. l.; thin out and use former sowings.

Tomatoes—stake up or spread brush for them to run on. Turnips—sow f. m. l.; the main crop of Ruta bagas should be sowed from the 15th, to "the 20th of July, wet or dry," for sowing the turnip is an old adage.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

Annuals—thin out and transplant ff.

Box Edgings—clip ff. to m.

Bulbous roots—such as tulips, hyacinths, Crown Imperial, &c., may be taken up ff. and their places supplied by Annuals.

Carnations—continue to layer, watering in dry weather; see last month.

Chrysanthemums—separate and plant suckers.

Dahlias—support and prune.

Evergreens—prune sparingly in cloudy weather.

Geraniums—make cuttings of.

Grass—mow lawns often, say every two weeks, and rake clean.

Graveled walks—weed and rake often.

Hedges—clip f. to m.

Hoe—at ALL TIMES, during the month.

Mignonette—and some other quick growing Annuals may still be sown ff. for Autumn flowering.

Pansies—Verbenas, &c., layer f. to m.

Prune—deciduous shrubs and trees ff. to m.; do not prune heavy.

Roses—Bud and layer; prune those which have done flowering, cutting out the old exhausted wood. Syringe with oil soap &c., as directed last month.

Seeds—gather as they ripen.

Stake—and tie up shrubs and plants, especially Dahlias, Lillies, &c.,

Transplant rooted layers ll. watering freely.

Water—Roses set out in Spring, layers, bedded plants &c. See *our* method in June number.

Weeds—keep down ff. mm. ll.

GREEN AND HOT-HOUSE.

Air—freely in fine weather to mature the wood of grapes which have perfected their crops.

Azalias—and Camelias which have done growing may be carried to the open air in a partial shade.

Cactuses—water freely after they are done blooming.

Carnations—continue to layer.

Chrysanthemums—separate and pot shoots.

Cuttings—of Geraniums and succulent plants, make f. to m.

Dress Pots—giving fresh earth to those in which plants languish.

Fumigate—often if insects appear, and use sulphur to prevent mildew.

Grapes—air in morning and keep the atmosphere moist by syringing; thin out and shoulder the bunches.

Insects—destroy by fumigations inside, and by syringing with whale-oil soap those plants which have been carried out.

Layer—Carnations, Pinks, Pansies, Verbenas, &c., ff. to m.

Orange and Lemon trees—bud; water freely keeping larger plants mulched; thin out fruit and remove blossoms when sufficient fruit has set.

Orchidacious Plants—Keep in a cool part of the house giving but little water if wanted to bloom well next spring.

Potting Plants—may still be continued: Pots which have been carried to the open ground, water often, and dress or repot occasionally.

Prune—Geraniums, Roses and other plants and shrubs after they have flowered; remove old exhausted wood; also cut back winter flowering plants.

Repot—Fuchsias, Cinerarias, Gloxinias, &c. heading in plants for next years blooming.

Seed—gather as ripe.

Stake—neatly plants which require support.

Syringe—and Water freely both in and out of the house.

ORCHARD AND NURSERY.

Budding—Apples, and Pears may be budded mm. to l. Stone fruit will be ready to bud ll. to next month, the state of the stock and the maturity of the bud must regulate the time, which must be later than usual this season.

Caterpillars—destroy ff.; see last month.

Hoe—among young trees in the nursery, and keep grass from growing about the trunks of trees in the orchard.

Inarch and layer choice varieties ff to m.

Manure—trees which are producing full crops f. to l.

Mulch—trees set out in the Spring ff.

Prune—both nursery and orchard ff. to m.; paring smooth; cut off stocks of trees budded last season ff., if not already done. Supporting weak buds by tying to a stake to prevent being blown off by the wind.

Thin fruit ff.

Advantage of Keeping Manure Covered.—An experiment conducted by the President of an Agricultural Society, in England, shows that manure which was kept covered by nine inches in depth with earth, so that no evaporation escaped, produced four bushels more of grain per acre, than the same quantity and kind of manure applied to the same extent and quality of land, but which manure had lain from the 13th of January, to the 4th of April, exposed to the weather.

When a man stops his newspaper on account of pecuniary foreboding, he may be considered about as far gone as if he should conclude to stop his daily bread for fear he should come to poverty.

RUTA-BAGAS—NOT TOO LATE TO SOW—THEIR PROFITABLENESS AND THE MODE OF CULTURE.

It is usually recommended to put in this valuable crop during June. We think, however, from what we can gather from the general experience for several years past, that as soon after the first of July as may be, is the best season for sowing this kind of turnip in this latitude, especially when they are designed for long keeping. Much farther North, earlier would be preferable; while say South of Pennsylvania, it is better to delay sowing until the latter part of July, and even until some time in August, in the states still farther South. But in no place is it too late to sow them, where the work has been neglected. No crop pays better if we take into consideration the small cost of production, and the valuable feeding qualities. On good ground, with only such a degree of attention as should be given to any hoed field crop, from 500 to 800 bushels per acre may be pretty safely calculated upon. The cost of cultivating an acre, including manure, seed, interest of land, and labor, could scarcely exceed $40 per acre in any case, and taking the low yield of 500 bushels per acre—they would cost but 8 cents per bushel. We think no skillful farmer having stock on hand, whether cattle, hogs, or sheep, would part with a crop for double this price. The average cost of production will seldom exceed 5 to 7 cents per bushel, and they have frequently been raised for 3 to 4 cents per bushel.

To state this matter in a different form: We think an active man could in one day's time do all the work of sowing and cultivating a plot 4 rods square. This would yield on the average say 60 bushels, taking one season with another. The yield may in some years fall below this amount, but it will oftener go beyond. The account with such a plot would then stand thus:

Use of land,	$ .80
Manure and plowing,	1.10
Seed,	.10
Labor,	1.00
Sixty bushels at 5 cents,	$3.00

Or to put everything at the highest figure:

Use of land,	$1.00
Manure,	1.50
Plowing,	.50
Seed,	.25
Two day's work at $1,37,	2.75
Sixty bushels at 10 cents,	$6.00

The same comparative figures will hold good on a larger scale. The use of one-tenth of an acre of land is seldom worth $1.00, and since ordinary workmen can attend to this crop, the estimate of $2.75 for the labor is also quite liberal. We have allowed $1.50 for 50 pounds of guano, (500 lbs to the acre,) at 3 cents per lb.; or 60 lbs. of superphosphate, (600 lbs to the acre,) at 2½c per lb; or for 1½ to two loads of good well rotted, stable manure, that is, fifteen to twenty loads per acre. All these estimates are high for ordinarily good land to be made to produce only 600 bushels per acre.

Ruta-Bagas leave the land in good condition for any crop to follow, and they may be planted as a second crop after an early one. Sheep are very fond of them, and in spring they are excellent for ewes having lambs. Horses eat them readily after a little training. and thrive well upon them. They are highly valuable for making beef and pork, as well as for milch cows. Some object to them on account of the taste communicated to milk and butter. This is mostly avoided by feeding cows but once a day at the time of, or just after milking.

MODE OF CULTIVATION.

The soil best suited to their growth is a strong sandy loam, though good crops can be raised on any but a stiff clay or wet soil, by plowing deeply and thoroughly pulverizing it. Clover, or grass sod of any kind, well turned under, will produce a good crop. If other ground is used, it should be well supplied with manure, unless this has been applied to the previous crop.

To prepare the ground, it should have, if in sod, but one plowing, and that just before planting—if without sod, it may be plowed twice to advantage.

Less than a pound of seed per acre would suffice, but there had better be double the needed quantity of plants, than to have a deficiency on any spot of ground. The roots seldom do as well transplanted, yet even this may be profitably resorted to. Some prefer sowing broadcast, but this must involve more hand labor and expense. Sown in drills, two feet or more apart, a cultivator or horse hoe may do most of the weeding.

The ground should be kept free from weeds, more especially when the plants first come up; for if left to be choked by them the first week or two, no care in after culture can remedy the neglect. The plants should be thinned out from 9 to 12 inches apart in the drill, to give them ample room to expand. On good ground, it will be found that the room thus given, will be well taken up.

Plaster sown broadcast, or on the drill, in the first stages of growth, will, on many soils, more than repay the cost and trouble.

It is as indispensable that the ground should be kept well stirred and pulverized with the cultivator or hoe, during the time that the weeds strive for the mastery, as that the weeds themselves should be kept down. Even after the growth of weeds is checked, the more the ground is stirred and loosened, the better for the crop.

They can stand in the ground till other fall work is out of the way, as a moderate freezing will not hurt them, and is even said by some to be beneficial. The leaves, with the exception of a few of the largest and best, may be taken from the roots for some weeks before harvesting, and fed to advantage, as they are nutritious, and stock are fond of them.

For topping and pulling the crop, an instrument like a hoe, with prongs, fork shaped, running back from the blade, is the best that we have seen for the purpose. If the blade is sharpened, a blow will take off the tops, then reversing the instrument, the root is easily pulled. Throw them into rows far enough apart to admit driving a cart or wagon between them, leaving the roots on the ground till they are dry, before gathering. In this way, one man can gather nearly a hundred bushels a day.

They may be put into a house cellar, but not in two large quantities, as they would be apt to heat. A barn cellar is better, because generally cooler. Those who have not either of these conveniences, should select a spot of naturally dry ground, and put them up in heaps for the winter. Pile the roots on the surface, or at most but a few inches below—making the heap about four feet broad at the bottom, and extending up as high as they can be made to lie readily, till they terminate in a ridge. These heaps can be made of any length—the longer the better—as it saves work in covering. Then with straw next the roots, cover with a depth of earth, according to the latitude. But they must not be covered too warm.

A good plan would be to draw up from the covering of straw, a large wisp, so that it will stand higher than the rest, and not cover this, till the heating or sweating process—which all products thus buried undergo—is over. If the heap is a long one, several such wisps might be drawn up to advantage throughout its length. These wisps serve as openings to the heap, through which the heated, impure air may escape, and yet shut out the frost effectually. These wisps should be pointed so as to shed off water.

Store cattle, or stock of any kind, can have the roots given them cut, and do well upon them, and for fattening animals, the less exertion they make to get the food they require the better. To prepare the roots for feeding, they should be cut or sliced small enough so that there can be no danger from choking. Feeders can suit themselves as to the kind of instrument preferable for this purpose. We would advise cutting them up finely in all cases. The English farmers extensively practice feeding sheep upon them in the fields without pulling. Their mild winters admit this practice better than ours, especially in colder sections, where they would be frozen for several months.—[Ed.

Combativeness a Characteristic of the Insect World.—It is a singular fact that the smallest variety of insects seem to be actuated by feelings similar to those possessed by the larger animals—they all have propensities to rob and despoil, to defend their homes—are jealous, revengeful and disputative—and war in armies. Bees, if pressed hard for food, will attack with great force the inhabitants of a neighboring hive, with intent to rob them of their provision. The white ants have a portion of their community set apart for the duties of war, and they exhibit in their operations a most perfect knowledge of insect tactics. Some of these ant battles have been described by naturalists, and appear to have been conducted with a valor and skill, which would have done honor to the chosen troops of a Napoleon, or the volunteers of a Taylor.

TURNIPS! TURNIPS!! RAISED FOR ALMOST NOTHING.

Elsewhere we have written at length in regard to Ruta Bagas. Many of the remarks there made apply to other varieties of Turnips. The common field turnip is usually sowed two to four weeks later than the ruta-baga. We have seen a good crop from seed sown on the 12th of August. The old rule is a good one, however:

"On the 20th of July,
Sow your turnips, wet or dry."

For family use, the Yellow-stone and Red-top are perhaps as good varieties as any. The White Norfolk, White Flat or Globe, Yellow Aberdeen, &c., are good varieties for feeding. The Yellow Aberdeen is the best both for the table and for feeding, though not as large a yielder as the others, owing to its smaller size. This, and the Yellow Stone, are of very solid texture.

We design now to call attention only to an item in regard to *where* to grow turnips. The short answer is, put them wherever nothing else is growing, or likely to grow this season. Take a dish of seed and a hoe, and go from one end of the farm to the other, not passing by the garden. Wherever you find a bare spot among other crops, if it be no more than a foot square, drop a few turnip seeds, dig them in slightly and take no more trouble about them, until it is time to gather the crop for winter, unless to go around bye and bye and thin them out where necessary. If a hill of corn is missing, put in some turnip seed. If in the meadow a grass plot has been killed out by winter, or by the burning of a stump or brush heap, scatter some turnip seeds there, (and a little grass seed also.) If in the potatoe patch a sickly hill of potatoes is found, leave a few turnip seeds to nurse it. Thus go over every field. This may seem small business, but the turnips will help keep down noxious weeds, and when winter comes on you have only to drive round a wagon and gather up load after load of nice bulbs, that have cost the nearest possible to nothing. This plan requires very little outlay for seed or labor. "Take care of the pence and the pounds will take care of themselves"—rather you will have them to take care of.—[Ed.

MATCHES POISONOUS—A WARNING.

Matches have become so common and cheap, that everybody has plenty of them, and those who study economy will buy a quarter or half gross of boxes or papers, as in that way they can generally save half the cost. However, they are apt to be scattered too freely about the house if bought in large quantities. There is danger not only of their being trod on or gnawed by mice, or being accidentally rubbed so as to produce fire, but they are often very poisonous. We were at a friend's house not long since, when we saw a child get hold of a box and commence sucking the ends. The injury that may sometimes result can be learned from an account recently published in a French journal, the Courrier de Pas de Calais;

"Two men lately entered a hotel in Cambrai, ordered coffee, and died shortly after swallowing a cup each. The landlady summoned the police, who declared that the men had been poisoned. 'Impossible,' cried the landlady, 'they have only drank a cup of coffee a piece, and that can do no harm.' She at once drank a cup to prove its innocence. The same result, however, ensued in her case, as she was seized with terrible pains and also died. On examining the pot a box of lucifer or locofoco matches was found lying in it."

GUANO IN THE HILL AND NO PAPER.

We recently met a man, driving fast, with a very long face. He was in pursuit of the Editor, and reining up his steed, he opened his complaint.

"I heerd tell great stories about the dewings of that foreign manure in your paper. Deacon Smith, tried it and I seed the account of it in Tim Bunker's papers. So I sent down to York, this Spring, and got a half a ton of Guano, and put it on to my corn. I was *detarmined* to give it a fair trial, and slap'd a hull handful into every hill. I planted it more than three weeks ago, and it aint up yet; and I am plaguey 'fraid that aint the worst of it. Now I want to know, what is the matter and what I shall dew."

"My dear Sir, I see you do not take the papers, but only borrow Tim Bunker's paper, occasionally and do not half read that."

"True as Gospel, Mr. Editor, but how did you know that?"

"Know it! Why your story convicts you of not taking the papers. You can not find in the country, an agricultural paper so poorly Edited, that it would not tell you better than to put Guano into the hill, especially a whole handful. That is enough to rot a whole handful of corn."

"Dew tell!"

"Your corn will never see the light, neighbor, and you must plant it over again."

"You dont say so!"

"You should have sowed your Guano, broad-cast; and plowed it in immediately; then it would have been diffused equally through the soil, and would have given you a good crop."

"I never thought of that."

"You ought to have taken the papers. In this operation you see you have lost five day's work, worth at least five dollars, and it is now so late, that your corn will not be near as good as it would have been planted earlier, you will lose at least, five dollars, on every acre of corn you plant, for want of this information about the proper method of using Guano. Five dollars in loss of labor and fifteen in loss of time, making twenty dollars, which would furnish you with at least a dozen of the best agricultural journals in the country, and pay the postage on them."

"I should not wonder if that was so."

We left our unfortunate friend, scratching his head, now radiant with a new idea. What the result will be, of course we can not tell. But we expect better things in future. Hundreds of cases like this are to be found all over the country. Men hear of Guano, and taking it for granted that it is of no consequence how they use it, they put it on by the handful and plant the seed directly upon it. Farmer's should read and think more. It is very expensive to cultivate the soil, without knowledge. Take the papers. —[Ed.

PLOWING IN CLOVER.

We suppose this work is done ere now in most sections of the country, still some hints may not be out of place, especially such as refer to the after treatment of the fields. For wheat or rye we consider a good crop of clover plowed in to be one of the very best means of securing an immediate return, as well as permanently enriching the soil. Let no short-sighted policy tempt any one to lessen the supply of manure by grazing down such fields "just a little." Let the clover attain its full growth, and as soon as the blossoms are fairly up put in the plow. We have plowed under hundreds of acres of clover, always "finding our money in it."

Our practice has been to pass a roller—sometimes a harrow bottom side up—over the grass ahead of the plow, taking care to bend down the stalks in the direction in which the plow is to run. This tends greatly to prevent clogging under the beam.

Our clovered wheat fields have never been plowed a second time. There is no danger of turning the clover under too deeply. As it is plowed in when green and succulent, it will rot, no matter how deep it may be, and the further it is from the surface, the less danger is there of any loss from evaporation. The clover being all placed neatly and evenly below the surface, the ground lies at rest until a crop of weeds appear upon the surface, when they are harrowed down. When sowing time comes on, a thorough harrowing is given, care being taken not to disturb the underlying clover. As soon as the surface is well pulverized the seed may be applied by drill or broadcast. There is enough clover in the earth just below the surface to give the wheat plants a start, and the roots, gradually extending downwards, find successive supplies of nourishment.—[Ed.

POLL-EVIL IN HORSES.

According to our own observation, this ailing is not so common among horses now as it was fifteen or twenty years since; still we frequently hear complaints of it, especially in the northern and western parts of New-York, and also in Michigan. A correspondent proposes a remedy, which we can not vouch for, but he pronounces it infallible, and says he has both cured a number of his own horses and seen many others cured among his neighbors. He tried successive applications of alum, which occasionally succeeded, but finally hit upon spirit of sea salt, or muriatic acid, (called by chemists *hydro-chloric acid.*) He first washes the sore clean with a strong suds made with Castile soap, after which he pours on half a dozen to a dozen drops of the acid, varying the quantity to the size of the sore. The acid eats or burns out the diseased flesh, giving the sore the red appearance of a fresh wound. If one application does not do this, he makes another, and even a third or fourth if necessary. It is then washed out with a new portion of the soap-suds, and left to heal. He is very confident the remedy will prove speedily effectual—"no matter how long the running has been going on." We have seen some cases where this disease had eat down so far into the flesh and bones of the head, that we do not believe any acid could produce or induce a recovery; still the application can do little or no harm, and it may be worth a trial in any case.—[Ed.

LARGE VERSUS SMALL POTATOES FOR SEED.

We have uniformly recommended using full-sized potatoes for seed—our own experiments have fully settled this point. Still we are glad to chronicle any careful and trustworthy experiments made by others. Here is one to the point:

Last season Mr. Stephen Haight, of Washington Hollow, Dutchess County, N. Y., planted three rows side by side—No. 1 with small potatoes about the size of Bantam hen's eggs, two potatoes to a hill; No. 2 with medium size, about as large as common hens' eggs, two in a hill, uncut; No. 3 with those about the size of goose eggs, one in the hill, cut once. The rows were cultivated alike in every respect. When dug and weighed, the product was as follows:

First row, one half marketable size,		40 lbs.
Second row, two-thirds	do	53 lbs.
Third row, nearly all	do	64 lbs.

Other experiments showed a similar result. It will be observed that the first and second rows had a much larger number of "eyes" than the third, as there were two potatoes to the hill, and still the yield of the third was 60 per cent. greater than the first, and 20 per cent. greater than the second.—[Ed.

USING PLAIN WORDS—QUESTIONS, &C.

George S——, writes asking us to explain two phrases in our last number, and he "hopes we will continue our usual practice of introducing none but plain words, that every body can understand." George shall usually be gratified. We make it a constant study to simplify our own language and that of our associates and correspondents as much as possible. We prefer to use a dozen plain English words, to convey an idea that could be expressed in a single foreign term or phrase which might perchance not be understood by every reader. Still there are many of these phrases which are very expressive and which it would be very well for any one to understand. George asks about "*soi disant*" and *con amore*."

Soi disant, means, self-styled—self-announced—would be, or pretended.

Con amore, signifies with love, desire, affection for. A farmer *ex neussitate* is one compelled to that pursuit by circumstances, or from necessity. A farmer *con amore* is one who follows the occupation, because he has a real love for it, delights in it, has a natural inborn or perhaps cultivated affection for it.

We shall be ready at all times to explain any such matter. The sole object of these pages is to convey information, chiefly on these subjects connected directly or indirectly with soil culture, and in all cases such information as is needed by soil cultivators. We are therefore glad to receive and answer questions from all persons, and particularly from boys like George S. Our greatest study is to find out just what information is needed by our readers, and to furnish that.—[Ed.

EDITOR'S FARM NOTES,

OR GLEANINGS AMONG PRATICAL MEN.

Huntington, L. I., Saturday, June 22.—We visited the farm of Mr. James I. Shipman, situated in this town, in that portion known as Sweet Hollow, which is considered one of the best hay raising sections of the island. This tract commences about two miles in a northeasterly direction from the Railroad at Farmingdale, and extends northward until within a few miles of Huntington village. The farm of Mr. S. is situated three miles from Farmingdale Station, and two miles from the Sweet Hollow or Mellville Meeting House. It contains sixty acres of tillable land, and a fine growth of young oak and chestnut woods. The arable land is surrounded on three sides by these woods, and lies nearly flat, with a slight inclination toward the southwest. The soil is chiefly a clay loam, resting on a hard pan subsoil about eighteen inches below the surface.

The house is surrounded by a lawn containing about half an acre of ground. A small flower garden occupies the south-east portion of the enclosure, having a variety of choice plants which are carefully tended and present a beautiful appearance. The edging is of grass closely clipped. The kitchen garden, immediately in the rear of the dwelling, is not separated from the lawn. It is of a square form, contains about a quarter of an acre, and is surrounded by a fruit border six feet wide, which is occupied by plum trees, and pears grafted on quince stock, which were selected for a six week's succession. A path five feet wide separates the fruit border from the garden. The main alley is made through the center of the plot six feet wide, along the sides of which are rows of currants and gooseberries. The bed divisions are all made at right angles with the main avenues, and contain the usual vegetables seen at this season.

We first visited an oat field of seven acres. They were sown the 24th of April, after having prepared the ground by plowing eight inches deep and harrowing it well, the manure applied, Ta-feu, was sown at the rate of 200 lbs per acre, and harrowed in. The oats, although sown late, look at this time very promising. The field was used for Indian corn last year, and a fine crop realized. Mr. S. has never used Ta-feu before, but thinks favorably of it. He considers the roller of great advantage on his land, but says if used when the ground is the least damp, it is sure to cause the earth to bake badly, and thus be injurious. From the oats we went to the wheat field, which has been so badly winter killed that Mr. S. proposes to cut most of it now while green, and soil his cattle with it. The grass sown with it promises well. He advocates soiling cattle, which he has practised almost entirely for the past few years with satisfactory results, and thinks it possesses many advantages over the old system of pasturage. He uses Indian corn cut green for this purpose, planting it in rows 30 inches apart to admit the horse hoe between them. This method he thinks preferable to sowing broadcast. We saw half an acre prepared in this way. It was about six inches in height and very thick in the rows. A thriving lot of two and a half acres of potatoes was next examined. The land was plowed last fall ten inches deep, and again to the same depth in the spring, immediately before planting. It was then marked out into rows by the plow, three feet apart, and the potatoes planted twelve inches from each other in the rows, with a handful of poudrette to each set, being at the rate of eight barrels to the acre, which was the only manure applied.

Four acres of Indian corn planted the 20th of May, was about six inches high and showed a good color. The land for this crop was prepared as follows: First, sixty-two two-horse loads of barn-yard manure were spread over the field, (an old sward,) and plowed in about eight inches deep. Thirty loads of hog manure were afterward added to the hills.

The old apple orchard, mostly natural fruit, contains about three acres. The trees are many of them still sound and healthy. A part were grafted recently, and all will be another season. This orchard is now used as a pasture.

A new orchard of four acres was set out four years ago, with 250 apple and 300 peach trees. The apple trees were set thirty feet apart each way and between the rows peach trees were planted. This orchard has been cropped mostly with potatoes and other roots, which require a frequent stirring of the soil. It was ashed at the rate of 100 bushels to the acre, when the trees were first set out, and has since received various manures with each succeeding crop.

This year it contains the following crops: 1½ acres of Lima beans planted June 2d; ½ acre parsnips, and ½ acre carrots, planted June 3d; ½ acre Mangold wurtzel's, planted June 11th, and 1 acre of white beans planted June 20th.

The manure applied to these crops was Peruvian Guano, and Ta-feu (on alternate rows,) sprinkled in the drills at the rate of 200 lbs. to the acre, and covered with two inches of soil, after which the seeds were drilled in.

The Lima beans were put in hills 3½ feet apart eaah way, so as to allow the cultivator to be used between them.

It has been ascertained that the man who held on to the last was a shoemaker.

SWINE FATTENING—DOES IT PAY.

Many of our friends at the West where Corn is a drug at 18 to 25 cents a bushel will readily answer yes, it does pay. At the East there is a division of opinion. When on a grain farm in Western New-York our experience was that it was profitable to keep just as many hogs as was required to glean the stubble in the wheat, oats, and pea-fields. After these were cleaned up in succession, the swine were put into pens, fed awhile on peas and other grain, and "finished off" for a few weeks on corn. They were usually slaughtered before Christmas. Pork in the carcass was then a little lower in proportion to the price of grain than now. To the amount above indicated pork raising was considered profitable, and was continued.

The profitableness or unprofitableness of fattening swine is modified very much by circumstances. Experience must be the safest guide in each locality. We present one of a series of experiments on this subject made by Mr. Holbrook, of Brattleboro, Vt., as communicated to the N. E. Farmer. Mr. H. is a reliable man, and a careful observer. Here is his own account:

On the 2d of January, 1856, I commenced feeding five lean shoats, weighing respectively, 80, 77, 70, 66 and 61 lbs., or, in all, 354 lbs., gross weight. They were placed in apartments consisting of a compost pen, about 10 feet wide, by 14 feet long, and an eating-room connected therewith. The litter made by two horses were daily thrown into the pen; scrapings from the woods, consisting of leaves, decayed sticks and rich mould were occasionally added, say two loads or a cord once a fortnight; and clean straw was frequently given to the pigs, which they arranged in the pen for bedding to suit themselves. It was quite an advantage to have the pigs make their bed in the compost heap, as the pen not being very large, the whole heap was influenced by the heat generated by the pigs while lying in their bed, so that it did not freeze deeply even in the coldest weather. The litter from the horses also contributed to keep out frost.

As in the experiments heretofore made, so also in this, the pigs were fed on corn and cob meal—the rule being to give them all they could eat with a good appetite, and keep the trough clean. Immediately after feeding them at a given time, the meal for the next feeding was placed in a bucket, hot water poured on to scald it, and the wash of the kitchen afterwards added, the mess standing in a warm place the while to soak and swell. Each grist of ears of corn, when put up to be ground for the pigs, was carefully measured, and at once charged to them, that all shrinkage from toll taken out or otherwise, was placed to their debit. Entire accuracy was aimed at in keeping the account.

The pigs were thus treated till the 8th of April last, when they were sold to the butcher at 9 cents the pound, dressed—he charging for the slaughtering. The five weighed, dressed, 785 lbs. They consumed eighty-four bushels of corn and cob, or forty-two bushels of clear corn. During the time of feeding, they were supplied with twelve loads of raw material from the woods, which they pulverised and enriched, and mixed with the litter from the horses and the straw for bedding, making up a compost of the best quality, both as regards material, and mode of manufacture.

Corn was worth in January last, in this market, about one dollar and ten cents per bushel; but has been gradually falling in price, till now it is about eighty cents, by the quantity.

The five pigs may be accounted with as follows:

785 ℔s. of pork, net, at 9 cents per ℔		$70,65
Deduct 84 bushels corn and cob, or 42 bushels clear corn, at an average price of $1 per bushel	$42,00	
Deduct paid for slaughtering the five	3,75	
Deduct paid for the lean shoats, $4 each	20,00	
		65,75
Balance, above the market value of corn consumed		$4,90
And the pigs have converted 12 loads of raw material into good compost, worth a bushel of corn, or $1 per load	$12,00	
From which, if you please, deduct the cost of furnishing material, say 50 cents per load, which is pretty high	6,00	
		6,00
Profit on the five pigs		$10,90

This is the sixth experiment I have made to ascertain the cost and profit of fattening swine, and it shows less profit than any other one of the six; and I attribute the smaller return mainly to the extreme and long-continued cold weather of the past winter. Probably, if I had fed these pigs a month longer, so as to have given them the advantages of warmer weather, to lay on fat, the gain in proportion to the corn consumed would have been materially greater than now appears. However, extremely unfavorable as the season was, the pigs paid more for the corn consumed, than it could have been sold for in market, by the quantity, and supplied a pile of compost worth more than they get credit for in the account.

Here, in New England, we must use all resources available at a reasonable cost, if we would keep our best lands up to the desirable pitch of fertility, and much more, if we would improve those that have been worn by long and severe cropping, or that never, by nature, had more than a thin hungry soil. The means for the most part employed must be those afforded by the farm itself. My object, in all these experiments with swine, has been to show to myself and to others, one of the ways in which the products of the farm may be disposed of, so as to give them back to it in compost with materials otherwise lying waste or idle, and get as good a price for the crop as though it had been directly exchanged for money. Here is the policy for him who desires to live by farming: so direct the business as to obtain a reasonable return for capital and labor invested, without robbing the soil. He who, eager for a present income, regardless of the future condition of his farm, takes all from it he can get, returning little or nothing back, is not unlike the man in the fable, who fortunately possessing a goose that laid a golden egg every day, was not content with so sure but slow an income, and thinking to seize a large treasure at once, mangled and tortured the faithful goose, and in the end lost all.

L. G. MORRIS' CATTLE SALE.

On the 24th and 25th of June, Mr. Morris held a Public Sale of Short Horn and Devon cattle, and of South Down sheep and Berkshire and Essex swine. The occasion was made somewhat of a festive one, and called together some hundreds of the American "Lords and Ladies." A detailed account was published in the Weekly Times of Jan. 28. We have not room here for anything more than the records of the principal sales.

SHORT HORN BULLS.

Romeo—Calved April 1850; sold for $600 to Reber & Coutts, Lancaster, Ohio.

Suffolk Hero—Calved July 9, 1854; sold for $325 to George Clark, Otsego County, N. Y.

Balconi—Calved Feb. 23, 1849; sold for $160 to Mr. Van Ingham, Rahway, N. J.

Brawith's Boy—Calved May 15, 1855; sold for $340 to Francis Morris, Throgg's Neck, Westchester co., N. Y.

Charlemagne—Calved Dec. 26, 1854; sold for $340 to F. Morris.

Marmion—Calved Oct. 2, 1856; sold for $500 to the brothers B. & C. S. Haines, Elizabeth, N. J.

Jacintha's Romeo—Calved Oct. 14, 1853; sold for $400 to John Hunter, Pelham, Westchester co., N. Y.

Chester—Calved Oct. 21. 1855; sold for $300 to David Brooks, Avon, Livingston co., N. Y.

Orpheus—Calved Dec. 22, 1855; sold for $675 to J. B. Crippen, Cold Water, Mich. (This was the highest price paid at the sale, and that, too, for a 6-months-old calf. The bidding was spirited, and shows the value set upon blood—justly we think.)

Belmont—Calved Feb. 24, 1856; sold for $375 to Amos F. Wood, Jefferson co., N. Y.

Stanley—Calved Feb. 1856; sold for $230 to Benj. M. Whitlock, West Farms, Westchester co., N. Y.

Barrington—Calved March 5, 1856; sold for $150, to Joseph Orvis, Massena, St. Lawrence co., N. Y.

King of Algiers—Calved April 20, 1856; sold for $400, to Robert Gerdon, Paris, Canada West.

Bailiff—Calved May 15, 1856; sold for $11a to Joseph Orvis.

NORTH DEVON BULLS.

Frank Quarterly—Calved March 1851; sold for $350, to Col. B. P. Johnson, Secretary New York State Agricultural Society.

Crusader—Calved April 5, 1855; sold for $105, to Geo. D. Parish, Oxmead farm, Burlington, N. J.

Prince—Calved May 6, 1855; sold for $150 to Mr. Buckhart, Morrisania, Westchester co., N. Y.

Master Birthday—Calved Feb. 1856; sold for $340, to R. Peters, Atlanta, Georgia.

Somerville—Calved Oct. 1855; sold for $155, to Lucius H. Colby, Grattan Village, Tompkins co., N. Y.

Byron—Calved Nov. 1855; sold for $250, to F. Morris.

NORTH DEVON COWS AND HEIFERS.

Birthday—Calved April 1854; sold for $450 to L. H. Colby.

Princess—Calved 1847; sold for $340, to F. Morris.

Virtue—Calved Oct. 8, 1848; sold for $440 to F. Morris.

Edith—Calved Oct. 9. 1848; sold for $300 to Joseph Hilton.

Birthday 2d—Reserved by owner.

Princess 2d—Calved June 2, 1853; sold for $275 to Hon. John Wentworth, Chicago, Ill. (Editor Chicago Democrat.)

Princess 3d—Calved April 1, 1854; sold for $250, to A. G. Sumner, Columbia S. C.

Birthday 3d—Calved Dec. 8, 1853; sold for $325, to F. Morris.

Birthday 4th—Calved Dec. 8, 1854; sold for $350 to F. Morris.

Princess 4th—Calved March 25, 1855; sold for $265, to Hon. John Wentworth.

Rena—Calved May 22, 1855; sold for $230, to Mr. Hunter, Westchester co., New York.

Rachael—Calved Jan. 10, 1856; sold for $175 to B. M. Whitlock.

Princess 5th—Calved May 4, 1856; sold for $150 to A. G. Sumner.

Rouge—An old cow; sold for $125 to J. Hilton.

Fuchsia—Calved July 1851; put up at $250; not sold.

Ruth—Calved March 11, 1853; sold for $225 to J. Hilton.

Princess 6th—Calved May 25, 1856; sold for $110 to Hon. Mr. Conger, Courtland co. N. Y.

Birthday 5th—Calved June 7, 1856 (18 days old); sold for $150, to F. Morris.

SOUTH DOWN SHEEP.

Young York—A five year old buck; sold for $400, to Samuel Thorne, Thornedale, Washington Hollow, Dutchess co. N. Y.

Fifteen yearling bucks, sired by Young York, sold for $50 to $140 each. Lewis F. Allen, of Black Rock, Erie co., N. Y., took four of them.

About 120 South Down Ewes and Lambs, brought $45 to $160 each. Mr. Thorne took a large number of them. Six went at $140, $150, $160, $140, $150, and $180. J. C. Taylor, of Monmouth co., N. J., took one at $140.

The Improved Essex Swine sold for $15 to $80 each. A lot of Berkshires sold at prices quite as high.—[Ed.

Important to Milkmen.—We perceive by the Gazette des Hospitaux, that one of the courts of Paris has recently decided that *milk is an article of food, and not a mere beverage*, and that the person who adulterates milk no longer commits a single contravention of the acts of the police, for which he is liable to a fine of fifteen francs and an imprisonment of from twenty-four hours to eight days, but may now be found guilty of misdemeanor, and fined fifty francs, with an additional imprisonment of from three months to one year."

Such a regulation would be a boon to our country, especially in the city of New York.

STATE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS 1856.

Name.	*Where Held.*	*Date.*
Kentucky, Ag. & Mech.	Lexington	Sept. 9—12
Vermont,	Burlington	Sept. 9—12
New-Jersey,	Newark	" 10—12
Canada East,	Three Rivers	" 16—18
Virginia,	Wheeling Island	" 17—19
Ohio,	Cleveland	" 23—26
Canada West	Kingston	" 23—26
Am. Pomological Society	Rochester	" 24—
Illinois	Alton	" 30 Oct. 3
Michigan	Detroit	" 30 " 3
New-York	Watertown	" 30 " 3
Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	" 30 " 3
Kentucky	Paris	Sept. 30—Oct. 5
California	San Jose	Oct. 7— 9
Connecticut	New-Haven	" 7—10
National Ag. Show	Philadelphia	" 7—11
North Kentucky	Florence	" 7—11
Wisconsin	Milwaukie	" 8—10
Iowa	Muscatine	" 8—10
New-Hampshire		" 8—10
North Carolina	Raleigh	" 14—17
Georgia	Atlanta	" 20—23
Indiana	Indianapolis	" 20—23
Maine		" 28—31
Alabama	Montgomery	Nov. 11—14
South Carolina	Columbia	" 11—14

COUNTY SHOWS FOR 1856.

NEW-YORK.

Onondaga,	Syracuse	Sept. 10—12
Jefferson,	Watertown	" 17—18
Oswego,	———	" 17—18
Albany,	Albany	" 23—25
Wayne,	Lyons	" 23—25
Oneida,	Rome	" 23—25
Franklin,	Malone	" 24—26
Monroe,	Rochester	" 24—26
Ontario,	Geneva	" 24—26
Queens,	Hempstead	" 25—
Rockland,	New-City	Oct. 8— 9
Schuyler,	Watkins	" 8— 9

OHIO.

Hamilton,	Carthage	" 9—12
Trumbull,	Warren	" 10—12
Geauga,	Burton	" 10—12
Medina,	Medina	" 15—17
Ashtabula,	Jefferson	" 17—18
Portage,	Ravenna	" 17—18
Geauga, (Independent)	Claridon	" 17—19
Hardin,	Kenton	" 23—25
Monroe,	Woodsfield	" 26—27
Butler,	Hamilton	" 1— 3
Belmont,	St. Clairsville	" 1— 3
Drake,	Greenville	" 1— 3
Sandusky,	Fremont	" 1— 3
Muskingum,	Zanesville	" 1— 3
Delaware,	Delaware	" 1— 3
Richland,	Mansfield	" 1— 3
Erie,	Huron	" 1— 3
Clark,	Springfield	" 1— 3
Lake,	Painesville	" 1— 3
Morgan,	McConnellsville	" 1— 3
Greene,	Xenia	" 1— 3
Cuyahoga,	Cleveland	" 7— 9
Mahoning,	Canfield	" 7— 9
Stark,	Massillon	" 7— 9
Warren,	Lebanon	" 7— 9
Licking,	Newark	" 8— 9
Ottaway,	Port Clinton	" 8— 9
Harrison,	Cadiz	" 8—10
Preble,	Eaton	" 8—10
Summit,	Akron	" 8—10
Loraine.	Elyria	" 8—10
Champagne,	Urbana	" 8—10
Hancock,	Finley	" 9—10
Columbiana,	New Lisbon	" 9—11
Clinton,	Wilmington	" 10—11
Noble,	Sarahsville	" 16—18
Guernsey,	Cambridge	Oct. 9—10
Tuscarawas,	Canal Dover	" 16—18
Seneca,	Tiffin	" 22—24

CONNECTICUT.

Fairfield,	Norwalk	Sept. 23—26

NEW-JERSEY

Essex,	Elizabethtown	Sept. 18—19

The above list will be extended in our next issue. We shall be thankful for any information as to times and places of holding State and County Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibitions, throughout the country.

Mowing Trial on the Fourth of July.—The Farmers' clubs of Bedford and Lewisboro, Westchester County, have arranged for a trial of Mowers, to commence at 11 o'clock, A. M. July 4th, on the grounds of Aaron Silkman, two miles east of Whitlockville Depot, on the Harlem Railroad. A fine place for those to visit who are not "otherwise engaged" on that day.

DO OUR EASTERN FARMERS BETTER THEIR CONDITION BY REMOVING TO THE WEST.

NUMBER FOUR.

Some people have an idea that after a new Territory or State has been filling up for ten or a dozen years, and gotten to be an old story, all the good lands are taken, and nothing is left worth looking after in the way of a substantial or desirable farm. And such people never made a greater mistake than in so thinking. There are now hundreds of thousands of acres of first quality land in Ohio unsettled, which have lain forty years since the government surveyed them. Some of them—perhaps the greater part—may be in the hands of speculators, but they can be bought comparatively cheap, are near rail roads or canals, and every way available for cultivation and settlement. So in Michigan and Indiana—even so, in some degree, in Western New York. Like many other things in life, we are prone to overlook the positive blessings which lie around us unappreciated, because familiar, and fancy those which lie beyond, and out of sight are far more valuable.

We can point to numberless farms in Ohio and Michigan, both cultivated and wild, lying within striking distance of railroads, schools, churches, and a wholesome population all around them, with timber, good water, and a healthy climate, which can be bought for less money than far less fertile lands hundreds of miles west of them in Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, on the broad prairies, with neither wood nor water near them. The only reason for this difference is, that emigration, like migrating flocks of pigeons, all get into the current, without any sort of reason that they can give for it, and for the time being, the emigrants think that until they arrive at the promised land, nothing is worth looking for on the way. When once at their destination, settled, and too late to recede, they find out their error; but now that the emigrating tide has turned into another direction, they cannot sell. They are in the condition of very many whom they have passed, only with worse lands, and a less available locality.

Every one has heard of "Western Pioneers." They are a class by themselves. They never have a home for ten years in a place. They "settle" as they call it—on the outskirts of civilization; remain a few years in clearing up and "bringing to" a patch of land. Sometimes they own it and sometimes not. As soon as society begins to thicken inconveniently around them, they get discontented, pull up stakes, and hie off to another wild, unsettled region. A better class come in, buy out their investments for a trifle, and settle themselves permanently on their squattings. This, usually, is the better way for emigrants from old farms, because they thus procure farms where improvements are begun, and some land is already prepared for crops, and it has a habitable tenement for their families, until they have time to prepare a better one. We believe the very best bargains, and many of the best locations for permanent homes, are made in buying out these pioneers.

Of the western States, Ohio is, and always will be the richest. It has a greater supply of good land, coupled with other advantages of climate, society, markets, and education, than any other. Yet there is great choice of all these in that State. We believe, too, that lands are cheaper in Ohio than in any other western State, according to their producing value. Next to Ohio is Michigan. Then Northern Indiana, Northern Illinois, and Southern and Eastern Wisconsin. People may wonder that we say this when such glowing accounts are given of Iowa, Minnesota, and the far West. No matter for that. The lands we speak of are quite as good as in the farther states and territories, and the markets much better and more available. The great agricultural markets are on the Atlantic coast. New York is the great market of our farming staples, and the nearer and more direct a farm lies to New York, the lands being equally good, the more they are worth, transportation being less, purchasers more abundant, and capital cheaper. Even in the Southern counties of Western New York, fine grazing lands, well improved, with quite tolerable buildings and fences, on them, can be bought for twenty-five to thirty dollars an acre, with more life sustaining resources upon them than in Illinois, at the same price.

There are thousands of people living on good farms with the comforts of life around them, who want to sell. The reason why, they cannot well say, only that "they want to go to the West." They make no further improvements where they are, are dissatisfied, and "want to move"—probably to become worse off than where they are, if they could only realize their present condition. Such is *American* humanity, and it only requires a deliberate observation on the part of the Eastern farmer, who wants to better his condition by emigrating westward, while taking a broad survey of the country beyond him, to get a capital bargain out of the discontented people who possess what they do not enjoy, and on which he can make himself and his family permanently happy.—[Ed.

FARMING IN WISCONSIN.

From a correspondent's letter, dated Delton, Wis., we make the following extracts.

* * * I find the farmers here very unwilling to make any innovations from the old style of farming, such as plowing four to five inches deep, using no fertilizers &c.; but although a new hand at farming, with your paper as my guide, I am determined to convince them that Agriculture may be improved upon, as well as other sciences. I am plowing my land eight to ten inches deep.

* * * I raised a fine crop of *perfectly sound* potatoes last season, by dropping good sized whole potatoes on the sod, and covering them with straw to the depth of two feet.

I was not successful with my fruit trees, but the fault was clearly my own; being very much engaged at the time I purchased my trees, I made small holes in the ground, and stuck them in, throwing the dirt hastily upon their roots; the result is that they have nearly all died. Would you advise my taking up the remainder and setting them according to the directions given in the Agriculturist, or shall I allow them to get along as best they can? * * *

The past winter has been very severe on fruit trees, particularly the peach which has been killed both root and branch. * * * Do you think that trees which do well in New-England would succeed here? * *

I think Lucerne would be a valuable crop here and intend to try it next Spring.

Remarks.—If the sub-soil is poor and hard, and it was not dug deeply at first, we should advise to transplant the trees this coming autumn. If the sub-soil is moderately good, it will probably be better economy to dig around the trees for some distance, and work in good soil and manure, without materially disturbing the principal roots.[Ed.

COUNTRY RESIDENCES NEAR NEW-YORK.

A subscriber in Norfolk, Va., another in Charleston, S. C. and a third in New Orleans, each inquire of us in reference to residences near New York, where they can locate their families, so as to enjoy the advantages of the country, and still be near the Metropolis. They, or others, can only settle such questions by a personal visit. There are any number of beautiful country residences, within one, two, and three hours ride of the city, and there are almost always some of these for sale. We refer to those fitted up with dwellings, &c. There are likewise a great number of finely located plots still unoccupied, on the different Railroad and Steamboat routes centering here.

After looking about for some years, we selected Flushing, Long Island, for several reasons, such as the beauty of the location, the fine nurseries and gardens, the good character of the inhabitants, and the excellent schools, &c., but chiefly on account of the quick and comfortable facilities for coming to, and returing from our business. Instead of an hour's ride in crowded horse-cars, up through the narrow streets of the city, we step upon a steamer at the foot of Fulton street, *enjoy* a fine ride of 3½ miles up the East River to Hunter's Point, and then go 7½ miles in the spacious cars of the Flushing Railroad. This road is mostly owned by citizens of Flushing, and, as a matter of course, its running hours are adapted to the wants and conveniences of that town. An hour's time is amply sufficient to go from our office to our home, including a short walk to the Boat, and another from the Depot. One can leave either end of the route at 6¾, 8, and 10 A. M., and 1, 4, 5½, and 7 P. M. Fare 20 cents, or $50 a year. We can not recommend a more pleasant trip for those who wish to get out of the heat, dust, and smoke of the city for an hour or two, than to go up to Flushing and take a stroll around the Commercial gardens, green-houses, &c.

MUNCHAUSEN STORIES ABOUT WESTERN FARMERS.

Many of our religious newspapers have adopted an " Agricultural Department' among the varied teachings with which they assume to instruct the world. This is all very well—praiseworthy indeed, when these departments are under the supervision of men who understand what they are about—but infinitely mischievous when exercised by a mere scissor-and-paste journeyman, who would probably be more in his element prosecuting the labors of a colporteur, than editing " Agricultural" matters. As a sample of many of their absurdities, we cull from the New-York Evangelist, under the imposing title of "North-Western Department, by Rev. Chas. P. Bush, of Chicago," the following:—

AN ILLINOIS FARM.

"The word *farm* in its ordinary acceptation does not indicate the thing of which we now speak. This is no seven by nine garden plat between adjacent hills, each of which a man may almost reach with arms distended, whilst standing in the centre of the valley. We have seen many such in Eastern Connecticut; and they are quiet little spots, often rich in comfort. We would by no means despise them. But neither is the place of which we now speak, a broad three hundred acre tract, such as is often cultivated in the renowned valley of the Genesee. We have long held those in high esteem. But here are *three thousand* acres in one farm, owned, occupied, and cultivated by one man—the Hon. James Curtis, formerly Mayor of the city of Chicago.

"This farm, as we learn from a friend to whom we are indebted for particulars, lies about one hundred and thirty miles South of Chicago, on or near the Illinois Central Railroad, near West Urbana, Champaign County. The farm lies in almost a perfect square, about two and a half miles East and West, and two and a half North and South. It is rolling prairie, and nearly every foot of it is susceptible of cultivation; better land was never warmed by the rays of a summer's sun.

"The mansion of Mr. Curtis stands in the centre of his more than Baronial estate, on high ground, overlooking the whole, and commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country. Crystal springs in the adjacent swells of the prairie supply a delightful stream to flow by his door, and these are the head waters of the Kaskaskia River. Seven miles West, the beautiful groves of the Sangamon may be seen, and upon the Eastern horizon similar fringes adorn the beautiful banks of one of the branches of the Wabash.

"But this farm is still new. Its beauties and utilities are but partially developed. It was purchased only three years ago, at an average cost of a little more than *seven* dollars per acre. It is now supposed to be worth *thirty* dollars the acre; advanced in three years $65,000—money enough for a man to make in so short a time; but far more pleasantly as well as honestly made than it might have been in a thousand other operations.

"To give some idea of the capacity of this farm, if it were all sowed with wheat, it would yield about 90,000 bushels. At two dollars a bushel, as last year, $180,000 is no inconsiderable sum to realize from one farm, one crop, and one season. If it were all planted to corn, about 180,000 bushels, it is supposed, might be taken. It would require a considerable bin to hold it in the ear.

"Mr. Curtis has three hundred acres of wheat now growing; intends to break up six hundred acres of new land this Summer; plant a part of it in the first place to corn upon the sod; and then sow the whole to wheat in the fall. Mr. Curtis is also interesting himself deeply in the raising of fruit. He has already set out twelve hundred apple trees; intends to plant this year five thousand peach trees, sixty quince trees, fifty plum trees, and so on. May he live to eat of the fruit."

Now, without disparaging the State of Illinois, or "Illinois farming," this story, without material qualification, is what we Yankees would call a "whopper." They have a softened term of expression out West, called "bloviate"—signifying, in common parlance, stretching the truth; Munchausen fashion, when praising any thing to extasies; and "bloviating" is the style of description to which the aforesaid Rev. Chas. P. Bush is greatly addicted in his *Illinois* description.

Three fourths of our unsophisticated readers, on looking at the above story, and then casting their eyes over their own insignificant farms, and quiet, comfortable homes, of one hundred and upwards, to even five hundred acres of land, embracing soils good, bad, and indifferent, but on which they, as well as their fathers before them had managed to make a good livelihood, and something beyond, besides raising up their families in staid, industrious habits, would be apt to heave a deep sigh of discontent at their own humble condition, compared with this more than "Baronial Estate" of the "Hon. James Curtis, formerly Mayor of the city of Chicago." Yet, as we happen to know something of Illinois and its prairie farms, without the slighest disrespect to the Evangelist, the Rev. Mr. Bush, or Ex-Mayor Curtis, we propose to take a trifle of the wind out of this inflated description.

In the first place, we presume that however great may be his theological attainments, the Rev. Mr. Bush knows little or nothing about farming, and by his own confession, has retailed his "bloviating" account of this farm at second-hand. Ex-Mayor Curtis is, so far as we know, a worthy gentleman, a resident of Chicago, a successful land speculator, living in a fine modern house in the city, on the shore overlooking Lake Michigan, and like some other "gentlemen" farmers, a lover of fine horses. This "three thousand acre farm" is *one* of his speculations—although he may intend to improve it for agricultural purposes. It is one, like ten thousand other prairie tracts in that wide Western World, situated in the open, bleak, woodless region, lying for hundreds of miles South and West of Chicago, two "seven, ten, or more miles" from the nearest belt of timber, and where every stick of fuel, timber, or fencing—even to an *ox-goad*, must be brought from at least that distance, to the farm—and coal, for fuel, a great way off. If the farm "cost a little more than *seven* dollars per acre," it is probably all that it is worth, as millions of acres of just as well located, and just as good land, can *now* be bought for, and probably at *less* than that, when farm crops get down, as they are fast approaching, to old prices. "Thirty dollars an acre," a thousand miles west, of *better* lands for *productive* farming in Western New-York, for which price they are every day selling—and improved at that—is a sum which the farming value of the prairie lands will be some years in approaching, without large expenditures made upon them in buildings, fencing, and ditching. So much for the "advance of $65,000 in three years."

The "Crystal Springs," and "delightful stream," when examined by the unpoetic eye, are probably a flight of fancy rather than fact, as those prairie waters incline to creep away through a broad "slue" into the distant woods. Yet, when opened by good ditches, they frequently furnish household and stock water to the farm.

Now for the real products of this "Baronial" farm. Mr. Bush, wisely, does not give them, because, we presume, there was little to give, but *estimates* its "capacity." In "wheat, it *would* yield 90,000 bushels," worth at "last year's" prices, $180,000. In corn, "it is *supposed about* 180,000 bushels *might* be taken." Here is both assertion and supposition, with data attached. As to wheat, these Illinois prairies, excepting near the streams, and in sections where limestone abounds, will not grow wheat, as a reliable crop. The upper or surface strata of soil, is an impalpable powder of dark muck, or vegetable mould, with little or no lime in it. Of course, not a wheat soil, and what *winter* wheat it produces, is of inferior quality. With little snow in that country, and a light soil, winter wheat is often winter killed by the high winds blowing off the slight covering it gets, leaving the roots bare. It then *heaves* out of the ground, and unless re sown with spring wheat, gives less than ten bushels to the acre as an average crop. Indeed, spring wheat is the chief wheat of the prairies of Illinois, and twenty bushels to the acre is a large crop. Millions of it, unless in times of scarcity abroad, are sold at Chicago for sixty to seventy five cents a bushel. We have known cargo after cargo of "Chicago" wheat sold in the Buffalo market for sixty-five to eighty cents a bushel, when good Ohio and Michigan winter wheat was worth a dollar to a dollar and a quarter per bushel, which had yielded twenty to thirty bushels to the acre—the latter a great crop any where in America. Illinois *does* grow some good wheat, but it is on the limestone ridges and timbered lands chiefly. The great prairies, unless in particular localities, are not either good, or profitable for wheat.

The corn of this three thousand acre farm is *estimated* at sixty bushels the acre. We saw a good many thousand acres of corn in Illinois last fall—the best corn year about ever known there—and on just such prairie farms. We are safe in saying that the average was not more than forty bushels to the acre. There *are* lands in the State which will produce sixty, even eighty bushels to the acre; but they are *not* the lands in question. Along the lower vallies of the Sangamon, Kaskaskia, Wabash, and some other streams, the average may come up to sixty; but forty bushels on the open prairies is a full yield, as they run. The price of corn as we now see quoted in the Buffalo papers, is thirty-six to thirty-eight cents a bushel at that place, the largest grain market in the country. It costs full twenty cents a bushel to transport it from the Central Illinois prairies to Buffalo, therefore it is readily seen how much is left for the producers.

On the fruit achievements of this vaunted farm, the Rev. Mr. Bush dwindles into "beautifully less" dimensions. "Twelve hundred apple trees, five thousand peach trees, sixty quince trees, and fifty plum trees, and so on," are numbers which any quantity of Jersey farmers of fifty acres calibre can beat him at. Apples do very well on the prairies, but peaches, quinces, and plums are just as uncertain—more so indeed—than wheat, and Mr. Curtis does wisely in confining himself to few of the last two. Peaches, in some localities, flourish, but the open prairies are too bleak and the soil too heavy for them. They will not pay, except *as fuel*, for which many farmers grow them extensively.

We have not expended all this ink and paper to disparage either Mr. Curtis or his farm. We admire the liberality and enterprise of this or any other gentleman, who seeks to bring so wide a tract of land under cultivation, and expend his capital for so praiseworthy an object; nor do we wish to undervalue his farm, which is no doubt a good one; but we simply wish to rebuke this folly of men, knowing little or nothing of what they are writing about, setting afloat such mis-statements as they do in such descriptions. They would, if people were *soft* enough to believe these stories, make them utterly discontented with a condition truly enviable, in their own homes, and set them at once to pulling up stakes and removing, knowing not why or wherefore, after an *ignus fatuus* in this supposed El Dorado of the West.

Illinois is a noble state, full of good land and enterprise, where large crops, in many things, can be grown with comparatively little labor, and must be sold at much less prices than the products of our Eastern lands. The enormous prices of agricultural products for the two past years have given a great impulse to western agriculture and emigration; but these prices are coming down, and the prices of western land must come down with them. There has been more new lands purchased in the States west of Ohio and Michigan within the last two years, than will be settled and occupied in the next twenty; and our word for it, farms west of Chicago can be bought for less money per acre five years hence than now. We well recollect the land fever of 1835–6 and 7, and "took a small chance in," at "Congress prices" too, "well located," a long way this side of Chicago; and now, twenty years after, cannot get our money back at simple interest, with taxes added. The great stock, and beef, pork, and corn country of the United States, is west of the Allegany Mountains and Lake Erie. The dairy and fruit country is East of them. Wheat and wool can be profitably produced at the West in many localities, and to decided profit; but no one country that we have yet seen is good for everything. Let the farmer first know *what* he wants to grow, and then select his locality.

A word as to Mr. Bush's correctness in cattle raising:

"As a specimen of what farms in this part of Illinois are capable of producing, it may be mentioned that Mr. Harris, another farmer in the same neighborhood, recently sent to market 100 fat cattle, the *average* weight of which was 2,373 pounds each. The heaviest ox, called the "baby," weighed 5,876 pounds. If any of our Eastern friends wish to try their hand at raising fat cattle, there is still room in the prairie for more of the same sort."

Any one not versed in matters of the sort would suppose the above to be a common transaction of an *ordinary* farmer, when not a single farmer in Illinois has ever produced such a head of cattle of his own breeding or rearing. This Mr. Harris is a cattle-dealer, drover, and feeder. He had got up a drove of finished "blood" bullocks, at a great price, fed them extravagantly for the purpose of a great show, and probably lost money on them. If their "average" weight (the 100 cattle) came up to 2,373 pounds each, they were such a drove as never, we venture to say, were got together by any other grazier in any country whatever; and as to the "baby" weighing 5,876 pounds, none but a thorough novice in such matters would repeat such an absurdity. If he weighed as much as that into 2,000 pounds, he would be the heaviest ox ever yet produced in the United States! We have seen an ox exhibited for show, which his keeper asserted would weigh 4,000 pounds, and although a wager of ten dollars was offered that he would not weigh that by 400 pounds, he would not put him on the scales.

In great sincerity, and with a wish to add to the value of his labors, *in his proper vocation*, we commend the Rev. Bush, of the New York Evangelist, to confine his editorials to appropriate Church subjects, rather than to expose his ignorance by descriptions of "Illinois Farming."

He, and others, by pursuing this course, will avoid leading eastern farmers astray. Doubtless we should receive similar advice, should we attempt to encroach upon their peculiar sphere.

"Tis false," replied the girl when her beau told her she had beautiful hair.

FARM LANDS IN EAST TENNESSEE.

[The inquiries in our last number have called forth a number of responses, some of which indicate "an ax to grind." We make the following extract from a letter written by an intelligent subscriber at Knoxville, who speaks without bias, we believe, so far as any one can thus speak, respecting his *own* country. We have the writer's address, with permission to hand it to any one wishing to make farther inquiries.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

I notice in your June number some inquiries for information "respecting the lands and localities around Chattanooga, and other parts of East Tennessee."

Premising in the first place that I have "no ax to grind," being engaged in no land speculations in this region I seat myself to give your correspondent the benefit of my experience, and will proceed to answer his queries in the order proposed.

The climate of East Tennessee is remarkable for its salubrity, and physicians find it "distressingly healthy." In a very extensive acquaintance I can call to mind but one single individual, born and raised in this section, who is afflicted with consumption;—affections of the lungs and throat are of very rare occurrence. I have known many persons subject to pulmonary complaints when they removed to this region from the north, and never heard of one returning without an entire recovery;—all attest the benefit of a change of climate.

The writer spent eight years of his life in the State of Connecticut, and the result of his experience is, that the winters in East Tennessee are *about half as cold* as in the land of "steady habits;" last winter being the only season in thirty years that ice of the thickness of six inches could be obtained from a still pond in this region; and whilst this is so, our summers are but slightly warmer than at New Haven. The difference is in the length of the season, not in the intensity of the heat. I have suffered more from heat in the city of New York than ever in East Tennessee.

The next inquiry of your correspondent—as to the most preferable locality in this region for a residence—is most difficult to answer, without knowing something of the tastes, habits, inclinations and means of the enquirer. Whatever these may be, however, he can find a suitable home in some portion of East Tennessee. If he be a man of capital, seeking investment for his means, he can here find improved lands, with good buildings, &c., that can be bought only at $30 to $50 per acre. If he desires to own an extensive domain of fifty or a hundred thousand acres, he can find several gentlemen willing to divide their estates with him at from twenty cents to two dollars per acre. I know one gentleman, a Frenchman, who is burdened with 500,000 acres, and considers himself a poor man at that. These, of course, are mountain lands, remote from settlements, and such that they can never, in this day and generation, be brought into cultivation. Yet now and then these wilds are penetrated by persons desirous of a secluded and quiet life. As an instance, the exile Mitchell is now living in one of the coves of the beautiful Chilhowee, though at present he is on a visit to this city, and, it is understood, intends soon to take up his residence here. The mountain air has evidently greatly improved him in health, and he looks robust, and animated with new vigor. If your correspondent desires to live in a manner as free as the air he breathes,—to have no public opinion to consult, no conventionalities to comply with, let him go to the mountain counties on either side of Knoxville and the Valley of the Holston—he may live there as independent as a woodsayer—" wear shoes or go barefoot," as best suits his taste or inclination, and his neighbors will never trouble him with inquiries about his affairs or intentions. Should he, however, be an active, enterprising farmer,—say with a capital of eight or ten thousand dollars,—he should by all means locate himself in the valleys. The Sequatchee Valley, in the southern portion of East Tennessee, is remarkable for its fine lands and its salubrity. It is a little removed from the line of railroads, and consequently farms can be bought at cheaper rates. Powell's Valley, lying between the town of Jacksboro' and Cumberland Gap, in the counties of Campbell and Claiborne, rivals the Sequatchee in all these particulars, and will at no distant day be penetrated by railroads. The mountains near these valleys, it should be borne in mind are masses of coal and iron, quietly slumbering in a Rip Van Winkle sleep, waiting for the blast of the steam-engine to wake them into life.

If, however, your correspondent desires to buy a good farm by paying a fair price for it, and to enjoy the advantagss of proximity to rail-roads, markets, schools, churches, &c., he should locate himself along the line of the East Tennessee and Virginia and East Tennessee and Georgia Railroads. This line commences at a village called Bristol, (too young to be on the map,) at the State line between Blountville, Tenn., and Abingdon, Va., thence by way of Jonesboro', Russellville, Newmarket to Knoxville, thence via London, Athens and Cleveland to Chattanooga. A greater spirit of improvement both in town and country is visible in the county of Knox than in any other locality on this route. The county is watered by the Holston, Trenchbroad and Clinch rivers, and a host of minor streams with us called creeks. The bottom lands afforded by these water-courses are unsurpassed in fertility.

Knoxville, the county seat, is a place of some eight thousand inhabitants,—is the principal town in East Tennessee, and is in a very growing and flourishing condition—possesses six Banks, seven churches, a number of steam mills and machine-shops, is the seat of the East Tennessee University, Tennessee Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, and East Tennessee Female Institute,—all institutions endowed by the State, beside other common and high schools. It is lighted with gas, and water-works are about to be constructed.

The produce raised in East Tennessee, corn, wheat, bacon, flour, &c., finds a ready market at remunerating prices in the cotton growing States to the south of us—the means of transportation being the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad, in connection with the great network of railways extending all over Georgia and a portion of Alabama.

"As to what pays best in that locality,"—for quick returns and fair profits, live stock of all descriptions, horses, hogs, sheep, cattle and mules, &c. * * *

As to the best and cheapest route at this season from New York to any portion of East Tennessee—is by the Philadelphia, Washington City, Lynchburg, Virginia and Tennessee Railroad to Abingdon, Va., then stage sixty miles to East Tennessee and Virginia railroad; this gap of sixty miles is lessening every week, as tracklaying is being vigorously prosecuted at both ends. As soon as it is entirely closed a person may travel by the cars from Boston to Knoxville in three days. 10 A. C.

Knoxville, Tenn., June 7th, 1856.

DOES FARMING PAY?

I take the liberty of sending you the following statement of the product of a field of mine the past season. It is not with the idea that it exceeds many others in the country, but my object is to demonstrate the fact that farming *will pay*, even on land at one hundred dollars per acre. The field contains 9½ acres. There are 13 trees on it, which diminished the yield of corn somewhat. The account stands as follows:

	Dr.
To manuring	$50,00
Six days plowing	12,00
Harrowing	3,00
Marking	2,00
Ten days planting	10,00
Twelve days cultivating	18,00
Ten days hoeing	10,00
Seed corn	2,00
Digging potatoes	3,00
Picking apples	3,00
Cutting up corn	8,00
Husking corn	32,00
Repairs on fence	8,00
Plaster	3,00
Interest on land	66,50
Total	$232,50
	Cr.
By 1,050 bus. corn at 28cts. per bu.	$294,00
105 bushels potatoes	32,00
130 bushels apples	20,00
Four bushels turnips	1,00
Twenty-three loads stalks	69,00
Ten loads pumpkins	10,00
Two and a half bushels beans	4,00
Eight bushels black walnuts	2,00
One bushel walnuts	1,00
Total	$433,05
	$232,50
	$200,50

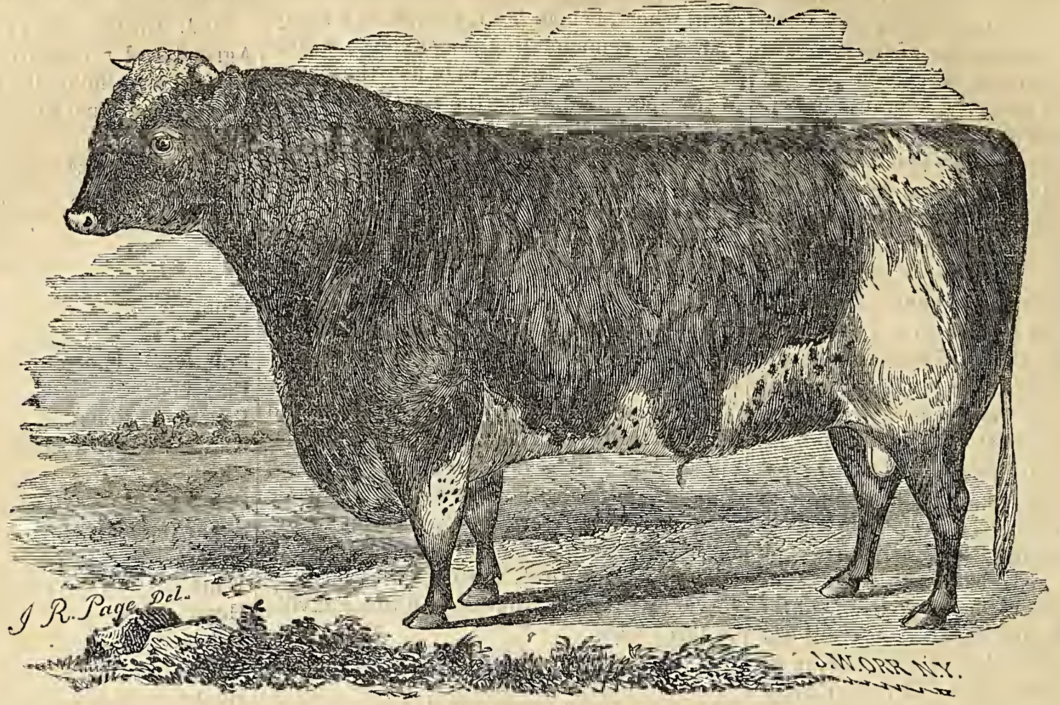
From the above it will appear that I have a profit of $200,50, or more than 21 per cent on the capital invested, which is rather better, I think, than some of our Railroad ocks.—G. W. Wood, Rural New-Yorker.

SOIL PRODUCTS OF THE U. S. FOR 1855.

D. J. Brown, Esq., Superintendent of the Agricultural division of the Patent Office, furnishes the following estimate of the Agricultural product of the United States for the year 1855:

VEGETABLE PRODUCTS.		
Indian Corn	600,000,000	bus.
Wheat	165,000,000	"
Rye	14,000,000	"
Barley	6,600,000	"
Oats	170,000,000	"
Buckwheat	10,000,000	"
Potatoes (all sorts)	110,000,000	"
Flaxseed	58,000	"
Beans and Peas	9,500,000	"
Clover and grass seed	1,000,000	"
Rice	250,000,000	lbs.
Sugar (cane)	505,000,000	"
Sugar (maple)	34,000,000	"
Molasses	14,000,000	gals
Wine	2,500,000	"
Hops	3,500,000	lbs.
Tobacco	190,000,000	"
Cotton	1,700,000,000	"
Hemp	34,500	"
Flax	800,000	"
Hay and Fodder	16,000,000	tons
DOMESTIC ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS.		
Horned cattle	21,000,000	head
Horses, asses and mules	5,100,000	"
Sheep	23,500,000	"
Swine	32,000,000	"
Butter and cheese	500,000,000	lbs.
Milk	1,000,000,000	gals
Wool	60,000,000	lbs.
Beeswax and Honey	16,000,000	"
Silk cocoons	5,000	"

Ingenuity of Birds.—Thrushes feed very much on snails, looking for them in mossy banks. Having frequently observed some broken snail-shells near two projecting pebbles on a gravel walk, which had a hollow between them, I endeavored to discover the occasion of their being brought to that situation. At last I saw a thrush fly to the spot with a snail-shell in his mouth, which he placed between the two stones, and hammered at it with his beak till he had broken it, and was then able to feed on its contents. The bird must have discovered that he could not apply his beak with sufficient force to break the shell when it was rolling about, and he therefore found out and made use of a spot which would keep the shell in one position. When the lapwing wants to procure food, it seeks for a worm's cast, and stamps the ground by the side of it with its feet somewhat in the same manner as I have often done when a boy, in order to procure worms for fishing. After doing this for a short time, the bird waits for the issue of the worm from its hole, who, alarmed at the shaking of the ground, endeavors to make its escape, when it is immediately seized, and becomes the prey of the ingenious bird. The lapwing also frequents the haunts of moles. These animals, when in pursuit of worms, on which they feed, frighten them, and the worm, in attempting to escape, comes to the surface of the ground, where it is seized by the lapwing. The same mode of alarming his prey has been related of the gull.


J R. Page Del.
J.W.ORR N.Y.

ASTORIA.

Calved August, 1850. Bred by J. C. Jackson, Newtown, Long Island. The property of the Brothers B. & C. S. Haines, Elizabeth N. J.——Sire, imported Duke of Exeter, (10152)—dam, Creampot 6th, by Pontiac, A. H. B. (125)—g. d., Creampot 4th, by Guarionez A. H. B. (68)—gr. g. d., Creampot, by imported Lord Althorp—gr. gr. g. d., Flora Hills, by Young Eclipse—gr. gr. gr. g. d., imported Jenny. See American Herd-Book, page 163.

TOMATOES FOR COWS.

It is not too late, by any means, to still secure a large crop of Tomatoes. They may even be grown from the seed after this date, but the better plan is to procure a quantity of plants, and set them out in any spare corners of the garden and in the field. They may be planted between the rows of early corn or potatoes. It is needless to say anything in commendation of them as an article of human food, but we think they will yet be used extensively as food for stock. The portion of solid nutriment furnished by this fruit is not large, still it is not inconsiderable; and taking into account the great bulk obtained from a very small surface of ground, we have no reason to doubt the profitableness of tomatoes as food for cows, hogs, &c. A friend writes us that last season he boiled a bushel a day, with a little meal and some green pumpkins and squashes, and fed five cows upon the mixture. The result was a large increase of milk, and a peculiarly rich flavor and color of the butter. A friend at our elbow says he has fed tomatoes, both cooked and raw to his cows and hogs, with the happiest success.—[Ed.

DIFFERENCE IN COWS.

Cows under certain constitutional circumstances, are naturally disposed to convert their food into fat; so much so, that there is great difficulty in keeping some individuals in a breeding state, more especially improved Short Horns, Devons, and Herefords. Turn a cow of this description into rich grass, and she is soon useless for anything but the shambles. The quality of the milk she gives may be fine, but the quantity almost nothing. We have had a Devon, the property of a noble duke, which carried off the first prize in her class at one of the Royal Agricultural Society's meetings, not giving more than a quart at milking.

On the other hand, there is another class of cows naturally disposed to turn all their food into the pail. Turn a cow of this kind into rich grass, along with the one above, and she will rather get poorer every day, if the milk is taken from her; while her plump and sleek rival is gaining weight. The former will consume greatly more grass and water than the latter, returning for it, in proportion, a still greater quantity of milk, but inferior in quality. In town dairies, when fed on sour grains, distillers' wash, &c., the quantity sometimes yielded is almost incredible. When such is the case, however, life is generally short, especially if cows are in a low state at calving. Hence the reason why dairymen purchase near-calves of this class in good condition.

The above two classes may be called extremes, between which there is a mean—cows if turned into a rich field of grass along with the others, would keep themselves in good condition, and give a medium quantity of milk, the quality depending upon the richness of the food.—Mark Lane Express.

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Fourth Annual Exhibition of the U. States Agricultural Society, will be held at Powelton, (Philadelphia,) on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 7th, to 11th.

The First Exhibition of this Society, held at Springfield, Mass., in October, 1853, was devoted exclusively to an examination of Horses; at Springfield, Ohio, 1854, Cattle alone, were exhibited; at Boston, 1855, all departments of Farm Stock, Cattle, Horses, Sheep and Swine, were shown.

The Society, encouraged by past success, and by the approbation of the Agricultural community, now propose to offer Premiums, not only for Domestic Animals, but also for Poultry, and the products of the Fruit Garden, the Grain Field, and the Vineyard, and for Agricultural Implements and Machinery.

Premiums from Twenty-Five to Two Hundred Dollars, amounting in the aggregate to over Twelve Thousand Dollars, will be offered for the various classes of Domestic Animals, Fruits, American Wines, Vegetables, Grains, and Agricultural Implements and Machinery.

A local Committee of Forty Citizens of Philadelphia, representing the various branches of industry, has already been appointed to co-opperate with the officers of the Society, in perfecting arrangements for the Exhibition; and Fifteen Thousand Dollars have been guaranteed to meet expenses. This material aid, coupled with the excellence of the selected location, and the large amount of Premiums offered, induces the expectation that the Exhibition of 1856, will be superior to any of its predecessors.

Favorable arrangements for the transportation of Stock and other articles, will be made with the various Railroads.

The List of Entries, the awards of Premiums, and the Proceedings, will be published in the Journal of the Society for 1856.

The Premium List, with the Regulations and Programme of the Exhibition, will be furnished on application to John McGowan, Esq., Assistant Secretary of the United States Agricultural Society, 160 Chestnut Street, (Rooms of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society,) or by addressing the Secretary at Boston.

Marshall P. Wilder, President.
William S. King, Secretary.

VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS—HINTS ON GETTING THEM UP.

Though this is not the season for Agricultural Exhibitions, Shows, or Fairs, (we make a distinction in the three,) it is time to begin to think about them—to make arrangements and to get ready for them. It is high time that the place should be chosen, and the various Boards of Managers should at once attend to getting them properly advertised. A large, attractive show-bill should be posted in every public place in the county, and a reserve be kept on hand to supply the place of any that may be torn down or defaced by accident or otherwise. We shall this year have any quantity of flaming political documents put up to attract public gaze. Let the Agricultural show-bills eclipse all these in size, beauty and attractiveness. We think fifty, one hundred, or even two hundred dollars expended on this single item money well laid out. It matters not how large or good an exhibition may be, it will have comparatively little influence, if the masses be not called out to attend it. We repeat, then, get out good advertisements, both in the form of show-bills, and in the local papers, and let this be done sufficiently early to secure an *accumulation* of interest and enthusiasm. Another suggestion: offer liberal premiums for valuable exhibitions of a few leading articles. Let these be large enough to call out a *spirited* competition.

Again, give horse-racing and theatricals of that character a wide berth. They repel a large class of conservative, intelligent and refined persons, who will not visit a race-course, even though baptized with the name of an Agricultural Show.

We commenced this article to introduce an extract from an address delivered by Daniel Webster, at the Annual Exhibition of the Norfolk Agricultural Society at Dedham, Mass., in 1849. It brings out and expresses some of the advantages of Agricultural Association, and we commend it to an attentive perusal. Mr. Webster said:

"The principle of association—the practice of bringing men together bent on the same general end, uniting their intellectual and their physical efforts to that purpose, is a great improvement in the present age. We saw it years ago—perhaps I might say centuries ago. It began in the corporations of the old world. It began in the professional associations of the world—in the legal, the medical, and the theological. But it was long in that country and in this, before the principle of combination came to be acted upon in the great system of Agriculture—before it was brought to that pursuit of life which is the main pursuit of life—before agriculturists were brought to act in unison. And the reason is obvious. In the city, communities strive together. The merchants and ship-owners can come together at the sound of a bell. The mechanics, generally, living in populous places, may do the same. They have the opportunity of interchanging sentiments every hour, and what one knows, all know, and what is the experience of one, all soon become acquainted with. But the agricultural population is scattered over all the fields of the country. Their labors and their toils are in some degree isolated. They are in the midst of the hills and the valleys and in the recesses of every solitary forest. There is no 'Change for them to assemble upon at noon. There are no coffee-houses, there are no Athenæums for them to meet at in the evening and converse on their interests.

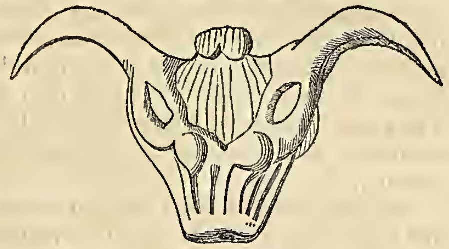
"It has, therefore, become essential to the best interests of the farmers of the commonwealth, that these annual fairs should be established, and that they should be universally attended. And, as his excellency, the governor, has remarked, it is not so much on account of what is to be learned by the most eloquent discourse in the public houses, or at these establishments, as from the meeting of men together who have the same general object, who wish for improvement in the same general pursuits of life, that they may converse with one another—that they may compare with each other their experience, and that they may keep up a constant communication. It is in this point of view, in this greatly practical point of view, that these annual fairs are of importance.

"Why, gentleman, every man obtains a very great portion of all that he knows in this world by conversation. Conversation, intercourse with other minds, is the general source of most of our knowledge. Books do something, but every man has not the opportunity to read. It is conversation that improves. If any one of us is here to-day, learned, or unlearned, should deduct what he has learned by conversation from what he knows, he would find but little left, and that little not of the most valuable kind. It is conversation—it is the meeting of men face to face, and talking over what they have common in interest—it is this intercourse that makes men sharp, intelligent, ready to communicate to others, and ready to receive intimations from them, and ready to act upon those only which they receive by this oral communication.

"Therefore, if there were not a thing exhibited—if there were not a good pair of steers, nor a fine horse, nor likely cow in the whole country, if there be society—if there be ladies, wives and daughters—if there be those connected with the tillage of land, I say that these annual meetings are highly important to progress in the art to which they refer. I come here as a poor farmer, to meet with other better farmers, ready to receive from them any intimations their experience may have taught, and desirous only of suggesting something for their reflection which now or hereafter, may draw their attention, and draw it usefully to something in the agricultural art."

THE CHINESE LING, OR WATER CHESTNUT.

We are under obligations to Messrs. B. B. Rudding & Co., editors of the California State Journal, for a package of curiosities, and also to the Pacific Express Company, for kindly forwarding the same. The package contained half a dozen dark colored nuts—if that be the appropriate name—which bear a striking resemblance to a cross between a bull and a ram's head. Our artist has drawn and engraved the following cut, which gives an idea of the present appearance of one side of the nut. The reverse side is similar to the one here shown.



The figure is exactly the size of the nut which it represents. In the centre it is about 7/8 of an inch in thickness. We give the following extracts from an editorial in the State Journal of May 10th:

"This curious nut, looking like the horns of a bull, is to be found in a cooked state, on the stall of almost every Chinese vender of edibles. Whether they are cooked before being shipped from China, or whether the Chinese are unwilling to give "outside barbarians" fruit in its natural state, we are unable to determine; but we know that after a search of several months we have only found one place where the uncooked nuts can be purchased, and they are so damaged by age and mould that there is no possibility of making them grow; nevertheless, we ask for *Ling* every time we pass a Chinese store, hoping to find some that can be successfully used for seed.

We have no doubt but that the attention of most of our readers who have passed through the Chinese settlements, has been attracted by little pairs of black looking horns, having the appearance of toys carved out of ebony. These horns are the fruit of an aquatic plant, called *Trapa bicornis*, by botanists, *Ling*, by the Chinese, *Chataigne d'eau*, by the French, and by us, following the French, the Water Chestnut. Persons interested can see them anywhere along I street, or if they prefer it, in our office.

We translate and condense the following article in regard to the plant and the use of its fruit, from the 16th of February number of the *Paris L'Illustration, Journal Universel.*

The Chinese are celebrated for employing as food a great variety of aquatic plants—plants which are in that densely populated country the more precious because they require but little care for their multiplication, and render useful and subservient to the interests of man, places which are entirely unfit for any other kind of agriculture.

Among the most valuable aquatic plants

grown by the Chinese is the *Trapa bicornis*, called by them the *Ling*. The nut of this plant forms the principle article of food for whole districts where the rice crop is scarce. The *Ling* is grown chiefly in stagnant waters, or those having but a very slight current. It is sown in the fall in the shallow parts of the lakes, in the swamps, and on the margin of the rivers, where it receives the full blaze of the sun, as the more the plant is exposed to the heat of summer the more prolific it is, and the better the quality of its fruit.

The unripened nut is very agreeable to the taste, and is much used by the Chinese as a refreshment for the sick. When ripened it is boiled and eaten as we do chestnuts, or dried, hulled, and ground to meal, which is used to make bread, and gruel, &c., &c. The green fruit is also preserved in large quantities and used as a sweetmeat for dessert.

The plants bloom from June to August, and the ripe nuts are gathered in September and October. Our author in describing the harvest says :

> ‘ Nothing is more curious than to see the women and children embarked in tubs which are used as boats to gather the crop. The noise, the songs, and the cheers of those strange gatherers remind me of the joyous vintages in France.’

When all the tubs have been filled they are tied to one another in a long row, and a boat tows them to their place of destination. The reason tubs are used instead of boats is to prevent tearing the immense *lianes* or branches formed by the plant, which produce a large crop the succeeding year.

The *Trapa bicornis* is cultivated in all the different provinces, and is variously known as *Ling*, *Pi-Tsf* and *Ki-Chi;* and a less valuable variety, the *Trapa natans*, is also grown to some extent.

The *Liene Hoa* (*nymphaea nelumbo*) is also extensively cultivated for food, the fruit being dried, ground into flour, and then boiled and served up with salt and vinegar. It makes its appearance on the most aristocratic as well as at the most common tables in the Empire. This plant is described as being very beautiful, and the scene in June is said to be magnificent, when over a broad surface immense quantities of the *Liene Hoo* spread like a carpet on the waters of a lake. The flowers, striped, pink and white, are the size of a large poppy, and fill the atmosphere with a sweet perfume, and gladden the eye by the freshness of their looks and the brilliant beauty of their leaves.

Our author, in closing his remarks on the water plants of China, says that the Government appoints botanists in every circuit of the country, whose only business is to benefit the poor by making out a list of every plant fit for the sustenance of man ; to make perfect drawings for its identification ; to describe it and the manner of its cultivation and the mode of preparing it for food, and to see that these descriptions are thoroughly circulated throughout the district.

We do not anticipate that the *Ling* will ever be of any material use in this State, yet as we have the necessary sloughs and swamps, and the proper climate, we hope that some of our amateurs will search for sound nuts and experiment with them. It is possible, if the plant is very prolific, and our Chinese population remains with us, that the *water-chestnut* may become a valuable addition to our agricultural products. At any rate it is worth trying, even for the novelty of its appearance.”

We commend the example of the Chinese Government as worthy of imitation here.—We have, doubtless, a large number of indigineous plants, which are worthy of cultivation for food, and our government ought to make some more efficient exertion to hunt them up and bring them into use.

As there is no hope that the specimens sent us will vegetate, we shall preserve them as curiosities, and any one may see one or two of them at any time in our office.—[Ed.

CALIFORNIA WALNUT.

In the same package with the above came some specimens of the native California walnuts. They are about the size, or a little smaller than the common black walnut of this country, which they resemble in appearance, though after removing the outer shuck the nut itself is smoothe. We tried one of them and found it in taste much like our butternut, or between that and the Maderia nut. The rest of the specimens we shall plant and report upon the result. The editor of the California State Journal, who forwarded these specimens, makes the following statement in his issue of May 3d :

“ Last December, we, in connection with Col. Forman, the Postmaster of Sacramento, and Mr. Redding, took a trip to the lower portion of this county to procure some young trees of the Native Walnut, which we believe to be a non-described variety between the common black walnut of the Atlantic States and the English or Chili walnut of commerce. We were unable to find any seedlings to remove, but rather than to be disappointed in the object of our journey, we took an axe and cut the suckers from around several old stools and brought them to this city and had them planted, almost without hope of their taking root and growing. But we are happy to say that we were mistaken. Of the twenty suckers collected, some fifteen are in full leaf, and have every appearance of becoming fine trees—six or eight of them can be seen in Mr. Redding's garden, three or four in the grounds of Dr. B. B. Brown, several in Col. Forman's yard, and others in the gardens of different amateurs to whom they were given to experiment with.

We also, through the kindness of C. S. Howell, Esq., Postmaster at Onisbo, received half a peck or so of the nuts from the native trees. A portion of these were sent to the Patent Office at Washington, and the remainder distributed. Of the general result which attended the planting of the nuts we have not heard, but those planted in Mr. Redding's garden have all come up, and he now has a dozen young seedlings varying from four inches to a foot in height. We commend this native walnut to the attention of our citizens for a shade and ornamental tree, as at the proper season there is no difficulty in procuring either the suckers or the nuts in abundance. Full grown trees abound on, and in the vicinity of Grand Island at the lower end of this county—say from Onisbo down to the swamps.”

VALUE OF HIGH-PRICED FERTILIZERS—GUANO—SUPERPHOSPHATES, &C.

[Below we give the first of a series of articles written for the Homestead, by Samuel W. Johnson, of the Yale College Analytical and Agricultural School. We know Mr. Johnson well, having worked at the same table with him for a long time, prior to his spending a couple of years in Germany, and other parts of Europe. He is a diligent, careful and skilful experimenter, and we know of no one likely to do better justice to the subject he has taken hold of, viz : a thorough investigation of the artificial manures, good, bad and indifferent, now offered to American Farmers. Those unacquainted with chemistry may not find these articles so interesting as otherwise, but all will gain some practical information. We may differ in some respects from Mr. Johnson, in reference to the method of estimating the value of certain ingredients in manures, and as to the best means of protecting farmers from imposition, but we give his articles entire.]

There is no better evidence of the waking up of the Agricultural community, than is to be found in the rapid multiplication of artificial manures, or the increasing importation of Guano. It is to be feared, however, that many farmers are not so wide awake as may be imagined, and are being disastrously fleeced through the ignorance or villiany, (I regret to use *this term*, but facts sustain me,) of manufacturers and dealers. In the present state of things, the Farmers of Connecticut, and indeed of nearly the whole country, are absolutely at the mercy of any man who chooses to engage in the manufacture or sale of manures. The consequence is that at this moment, a kind of Guano is in the market which is not worth one-half what is demanded for it, and superphosphates of Lime are sold, which do not contain a particle of soluble phosphoric acid. How shall the Farmer be protected from imposition, or rather my readers, let me put the question more directly, How shall *you protect yourselves?* You can not do it by field trial, because what you order by the hundred weight for trial this year, may be indeed very good ; but what you buy next year by the ton, may be almost worthless. You can't tell by the smell, for a good commercial manure, has, or ought to have no strong odor, which is a sign of rapid waste. Color, consistence and all physical or external characters may be easily counterfeited. There is no way to protect yourself, but by having recourse to chemical analysis made of it. You can tell infallibly what its value is. In fact a chemical examination of a manure is more reliable in determining its commercial worth, than an actual trial on the field. Every reading and observing farmer knows that soils differ exceedingly in their nature and wants; he knows that climate, weather, mode of tillage, kind of crops, &c., affect the yield of agricultural produce. It often happens that a worthless application to the field appears to be valuable, merely because the weather and other conditions of vegetable growth have been unusually favorable. Again, the effects of the best manures may be neutralized by unfavorable circumstances. But chemical analysis, when skilfully performed, always tells a precise truth, not in the slightest degree influenced by any of the uncontrollable agencies that affect the produce of the fields, and modify the estimates which are drawn in practice.

But none except large farmers who make heavy purchases of manures, can afford to have them analysed. The analysis of a single specimen of Guano, or superphosphate can not be made for less than $10, and this sum is no mean item in the farmers' account. The analyses which the dealers themselves publish, furnish no guaranty. It is not difficult for an unscrupulous man to *write* an analysis for himself.

Suppose it is made by a professional Chemist, we have in the first place to inquire the character of that Chemist. If he is in the habit of giving certificates to dealers in every variety of nostrum and cure-all, declaring that he has analyzed their compound Sarsaparillas, Elixirs and Panaceas, and can pronounce them of the highest value for the purpose set forth, it is obvious that he is a humbug, for the analysis of a mixture of any half dozen common vegetable drugs, is an intricate business which no man of science will be caught pretending to be able to carry on to a very great extent. The respectable Charlatan who sells a so-called medicine, is very certain to get a respectable Charlatan to certify to its inappreciable value! One of the chief manufacturers of artificial fertilizers in this country told the writer that he had placed no dependence on the *Chemist, par excellence*, of our commercial Metropolis, because that sapient individual invariably stated them in such a manner, (a manner admitting of the best interpretation for the seller,) they conveyed no definite information on the really important points. This gentleman not only informed me of his opinion but frankly expressed the same to the distinguished Dr and Prof., &c. &c., who made the analyses. I shall have occasion by and by to illustrate what is meant by this vagueness here alluded to.

Admitting, however, that we are presented with the certificate of a man whose character is above all bribe or question, how do we know that what we buy is the thing that he has analyzed? I shall be able to show some discrepancies between samples sent by the dealers for analysis, and such as are found on sale in our Agricultural Stores. It must therefore be accepted as a general rule, that no reliance can be placed on the analyses published and paid for by dealers. However numerous or worthy the exceptions to this rule may be, the farmer can not be expected to know them.

Farmers, you have but one method left for self-protection, and that is the following; look at it, and tell me if it be wrong, or adopt it if it be right! You must either form new associations, or use the Agricultural Societies already existing, for the purpose of sustaining chemical laboratories in which skilled chemists shall be employed to analyze every new manure that is made or imported, and not merely once, nor one sample, but repeatedly, and specimens collected from various parts of the country, and such specimens as are sold to the farmer. Were it well understood among the dealers in manures, that any day their wares were liable to be subjected to chemical analysis, on behalf of the community, and that by means of the Agricultural press, these analyses would be placed before every one of their customers, the honest ones would be obliged to use the greatest care to make or keep their articles of uniform good quality, and the rogues would be compelled to shut up shop, or turn honest men. Until such measures are adopted, one half, at least, of all the money spent in this country for concentrated commercial fertilizers, will be worse than lost to the Farmer.

With one well finished laboratory in the country, devoted to the examination of commercial fertilizers, or even by actively employing one chemist, securing him in one of the existing laboratories, the farmer might purchase genuine fertilizers at a fair rate, with hardly any possibility of being cheated.

An idea of the extent of the business may be gathered from the following list of such as are on sale in our Eastern cities. I have affixed the prices so far as known to me.

Peruvian Guano, No. 1	$54 60	per ton
Ichabœ Guano	40 00	"
Pacific Ocean Guano	50 00	"
Columbian Guano	35 00(?)	"
Mexican Guano		
Fish Guano, Narragansett Co.'s	45 00	"
Poudrette, Lodi Co.'s, New York	1.50@2 00	per bbl.
Poudrette, Liebig Man.Co., E. Hart. Ct.	1.50@2 00	"
Ta Feu, Lodi Co.	35 00	per ton
Fish Compost, Narragansett Co. Prov. R. I.	20 00	"
Muriate of Lime	10 00	"
Coe's Superphosphate of Lime, Middletown.	45 00	"
De Burg's No. 1 Ammoniated Superphosphate of Lime, New-York	45 00	"
Hildreth's Superphosphate of Lime, N. Y.	45 00	"
Mapes' Nitrogeniz'd Superphos., Newark, N.J.	45 00	"
Hoyt's Superphosphate	...	
Cancerene. prepared from the Sea Crab, N. J.		

Chemical analysis of most of these substances have recently been made by myself or at my request, the results of which I purpose communicating to the public, that the consumers of these fertilizers may have some information as to their value, proceeding from other than the usual sources. Before giving these analyses something need be remarked concerning the principles that should guide us in the valuation of a high priced fertilizer.

1st. *What substances are to be regarded as important in costly manures?* All the kinds of matter in the plant are of course essential to its growth, and are all usefully applied to the soil in some cases, and generally speaking valuable for the soil in proportion as they are deficient in it. Scientifically speaking we can not say that ammonia or phosphoric acid is more valuable to any plant than potash, or lime is. All are indispensable, and as *plant's food* are equally valuable. Commercially viewed however their worth is very various, depending on their scarcity and demand for them, for other than agricultural purposes. In my humble opinion there are at most but three ingredients that deserve to be taken into account in estimating the value of any manufactured or imported fertilizer now in market which is sold as high or higher than one cent per pound. These are Phosphoric acid, Ammonia and Potash. Everything else that has a fertilizing value can be cheaply obtained under its proper name. If I want soda or chlorine, I buy common salt, an article whose purity I can judge by mere inspection, if I want sulphuric acid, gypsum supplies me and so on. I incline to believe that potash too may well be left out of the account, because it is not *generally* deficient in soils and therefore farmers *generally* can not be expected to pay for it, and again it is usually present in very small quantities in concentrated fertilizers. The best Guano contains but one to three per cent of potash, and the inferior washed sorts usually less. Superphosphates, *i. e.* bones or mineral phosphate treated with sulphuric acid, cannot if genuine be supposed to contain any potash of consequence. In other fertilizers it is not to be looked for, because potash in a nearly pure state or even as raw material, (wood-ashes,) has a higher commercial value for technical than for agricultural purposes.

With ammonia and phosphoric acid the case is different. For them there is comparatively little demand except for agricultural use; besides they produce in the aggregate vastly greater good results as fertilizers than any other bodies, showing they are more generally deficient in the soil, and finally they are scarce and costly.

Commercially regarded, ammonia is the most costly fertilizer, next comes potash and then phosphoric acid. Agriculturally considered, ammonia is generally the most valuable, phosphoric acid next and potash least.

Ammonia is worth about sixteen cents per pound. Its cheapest source at present is No. 1 Peruvian Guano. A specimen I have lately examined contains six per cent of ready formed ammonia, and animal substances which by decay *readily* yield nine per cent more, making a total of fifteen per cent. Taking guano at its present price of fifty-four dollars per ton, of two thousand pounds, one hundred pounds costs two dollars and seventy cents. If we admit that ammonia concentrates its whole value, the $2 70 divided by 15 gives us 18 cents as the value of one pound of ammonia, if we allow the 15 per cent of phosphoric acid existing in this guano to come into the estimate at two cents per pound, then we reduce the value of the ammonia to sixteen cents, (fifteen pounds phosphoric acid at 2 cents equals 30 cents which subtracted from $2 70 leaves $2 40 this divided by 15 gives the quotient 16.) In sulphate of ammonia at 5½ cents per pound, or Chili Saltpetre at 5 cents the ammonia costs about 25 cents a pound. Oil-cake is the only other commercial fertilizer readily yielding ammonia in it, and the cost is I believe also about 25 cents per pound. In Germany it is very cheap and largely used as manure, especially the colza, or rape-cake which on account of it's unpleasant taste is not suited for feeding. In unburnt or unboiled bones we have nitrogen sufficient to yield from four to six per cent of ammonia, but it decays very slowly unless they are steamed or composted, and this fact should reduce its value somewhat. The estimate given by Stockhardt reduced to the standard adopted here for actual or ready formed ammonia is 13 cents per pound. It is most convenient to speak of the nitrogen which exists in undecayed animal substances as ammonia because it passes into that body on decay. It is customary to designate it as *potential* ammonia (that which *may* be produced under certain circumstances), in distinction from ready-formed or *actual* ammonia.

The value of potash is difficult to estimate because it may vary exceedingly according to circumstances. Wood-ashes are its chief sources; these are poor or rich in potash according to the kind of tree that yields them, and the soil on which it has grown. It may vary from 5 to 20 per cent. Stockhardt who estimates the value of ammonia at 19 cents, makes potash worth 4 cents per pound; the price of pot-ashes can not serve as a guide for they are never used for agricultural purposes. Four cents is certainly high enough for this country if it is correct for Germany.

Phosphoric acid is reckoned by Stockhardt at 2 cents per pound, and I have used this estimate in allowing for the phosphoric acid in guano. Crushed bones sell at $1 per 100 pounds and less. When they are fresh they contain about 5 per cent of potential ammonia, 25 per cent of phosphoric acid, reckoning the former at 13 cents per pound, we account for 65 cents, leaving 35 cents as the value of 25 pounds of phosphoric acid. This gives a value of 1½ cents. When we consider the quantities of refuse phosphoric acid in the used up bone-black of the sugar refineries, and the cheaper price of boiled bones, we shall do injustice to the farmer rather than to the manufacturer, when we assume 1½ cents, as the value of phosphoric acid when saturated with lime or magnesia and thus insoluble in water. Soluble phosphoric acid is of much greater value, from its greater rapidity of action. To convert 25 pounds of insoluble phosphoric acid, (bone earth phosphate,) into soluble phosphoric acid,—superphosphate—requires 30 pounds of oil of vitriol; which at 2 cents per pound, would make 25 pounds of soluble phosphoric acid, worth 35 to 60 cents, say $1, or 4 cents per pound, cost of preparation included.

Prof. May, in a paper on superphostate of lime in the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, vol. XII. 1851, rated phosphoric acid in the state of insoluble phosphate of lime at 3 cents per pound, and superphosphate at 8½ cents, or double the prices I have been led to adopt. He calculated the latter however from the selling price of a commercial superphosphate, which is obviously no criterion for the farmer.

It is plain that it is no easy matter to estimate the value of a manure, since so many things influence our decision; and I do not for a moment suppose that the prices these calculations have led me to, are strictly correct, but they doubtless are not very far from the truth and at all events may serve us in comparing the different fertilizers whose composition will be made known in future numbers.

It is the duty of farmers themselves to institute such inquiries as may enable them to decide how much they can afford to pay per pound for these substances. This, it strikes me, is legitimate business for a State Agricultural Society.

Lawn, Orchard, Garden, &c.

ATTEND TO THE EVERGREEN TREES.

We observe that an unusually large number of evergreen trees and shrubs have been put out the present season. We are pleased to see this, and we know those who have planted them will never regret the time and expense, especially when the winter season comes on, and they see their yards or lawns adorned with living foliage, while all else around presents a dull, lifeless aspect.

But these evergreen trees, so recently removed from their native beds, and in part robbed of their feeding, *drinking* organs or roots, should not be left to wither and die for want of moisture, to supply the waste by evaporation during these parching days. See to it that an artificial watering is given sufficiently often to keep the ground around the roots *damp*—not *wet*. These remarks apply to all trees recently transplanted.

Mulching all such trees, that is covering the ground above the roots with old hay, straw, long manure, weeds, or even muck, is a matter of the highest importance. A little labor expended in this way will be repaid a hundred fold. A good coat of any of those substances will keep the ground moist without watering, while their gradual decay will afford nourishment to the roots. Let this work be attended to *now*.—[Ed.

PARLOR PLANTS,

SOME OF THE MOST DESIRABLE DESCRIBED.

But few of those who are fond of flowers and who delight in their cultivation, have the convenience of a greenhouse or conservatory.

For the benefit of such we have selected and briefly described a few of the most desirable plants which can very readily be cultivated in the sitting room or parlor.

We are aware that many have undertaken the cultivation of parlor plants and have not succeeded in their attempts, but their failures have resulted mainly from a wrong selection. A weak, sickly plant is often chosen simply because it is in bloom, but which after removal from the greenhouse soon languishes and perhaps becomes a prey to insects ever ready to seize on an unhealthy growth. It is far better to select good strong healthy growing specimens, even though they have not so much as a flower bud in sight, and wait a little longer for a perfect bloom and a hardy fine growing plant.

Recent introductions from California, Australia and Japan, have very materially widened the range of selection; but purposing to follow the subject more at length in some future number, we will now confine ourselves to a description of a few of those which thrive best in doors during the entire year, but which require a good supply of fresh air during the summer months. Such plants are adapted to the city as well as the country. We commence with

Dracena terminalis.—A variety of the Dragon plant, is of very easy culture and highly ornamental; foliage dull red, striated and variegated with crimson, white and green; flowers are not very showy, but the plant is of itself a bouquet during the entire year.

Dracena ferrea, or true Dragon plant, and Dracena nobilis, are also fine varieties of the same family.

Cordyline rubra is a graceful plant of easy culture, more desirable on account of the variety of its foliage than its flowers.

Abutilon insigne is a fine variety of a beautiful and singular tribe of plants, with graceful foliage, and dwarfish in habit; flowers are abundant of a dark red color and much striated.

The variety striatum is a handsome plant with balloon shaped flowers, red with yellow stripes; is a free bloomer.

Ardisia crenulata is a fine shrubby plant with pure white flowers producing coral berries which remain on for two years; it is a desirable acquisition and easily cultivated. The variety fructu albo, differs from the above only in the color of its berries which are pearly white.

Gardenia fortunii is the finest of the cape Jasmine's with pretty foliage and very fragrant flowers nearly as large as a double white camelia; it is altogether a superb plant.

Tabernemontana coronaria is of the same family as the above, of bushy habit with fine lively green foliage and very double white flowers.

Cissus discolor is an elegant climbing plant with highly colored and beautiful foliage. It is of very easy culture and may be trained in festoons over a window or on a trellis as desired, but will require rest in winter, keeping it rather dry at the root; it should be in every collection and will richly repay the trouble of keeping.

Croton pictum, painted leaved; this is a plant which should be in every collection however small; it has highly colored and distinctly marked leaves which remain on during the year; it is of rather slow growth and shrubby in habit, bearing a good heat, but must be kept rather dry during the winter.

Euphorbia splendens is a desirable plant bearing bright scarlet flowers in great profusion; it can be cultivated as easily as a cactus.

Gymnogramma aurea or Golden fern, is

one of the most beautiful of its species, with bright yellow colored leaves and of easy culture.

Begonia sanguinea is one of the finest of a tribe of plants well suited to parlor cultivation; the leaves are bright red with pure white flowers, forming a striking contrast. The fuchsioides is a variety of the above with a profusion of bright red pendant flowers, similar to those of the Fuchsia. Prestoniensis and Zanthina marmorea are new hybrids of the same class, the former with cinnamon and the latter with straw and pink colored flowers in great abundance; the marmorea has fine variegated foliage and will bear shade well.

Medinella Sicboldii, is a plant of great beauty on account of its large spikes of bright pink wax-like flowers, which are abundantly at all seasons of the year.

Tassiandra splendens is a semi-shrubby plant, with fine silky foliage of the richest green; flowers of a dark plum color with a peculiar tinge, forming altogether a coveted plant.—[Ed.

NEW-ROCHELLE OR LAWTON BLACKBERRY.

About half of our plants were killed down to the ground, by the severity of the past winter. We should like to learn, if this new favorite has suffered from the winter in other localities, and if it is a hardy plant. Close by our plantation was a row of the native black-raspberry, which needs no protection. These were killed much worse than the blackberry. In the neighborhood the Isabella grape vines were badly injured and many of them killed to the ground. This has not happened before for twelve years; and we doubt if they were ever killed so badly. The red cedars all along the ground still wear a very brown and somber aspect, from the same cause. Many of them are dead. Our blackberries were killed alike, where they were exposed to the sun, and where they were on the north side of a fence.—[Ed.

PRESERVING CANS.

These are fully advertised in the appropriate columns. We have heretofore been rather prejudiced against their use, fearing that poison might result from the corrosive action of vegetable acids upon the metalic ubstances. More recent improvements in their construction, and an examination of some articles kept in them has overcome this prejudice, and we shall use them the present season. On the 24th ult. we opened a can of Tomatoes put up last August by Messrs. Wells & Provost, and found them as nice, sweet and fresh as if just picked from the vines. Some green sweet corn put up by a friend last October, and opened June 21st, we found in an excellent state of preservation.

One word of advice to all who may use these cans. Read the accompanying directions carefully and follow them exactly. We think it useless to trust to any screw arrangement for perfect exclusion of air. After they are screwed down tightly, cover over the top with melted wax in all cases, and you are then pretty sure of saving the fruit, if it is in a good condition for keeping, and the other directions are followed.

THE CURCULIO AGAIN EXTERMINATED.

If the curculio had not more lives than a cat, we should have heard of its burial long ago. We are beginning to despair of any remedy, except perhaps that of Dr. Underhill, (planting by the side of water) which is not everywhere practicable, nor even generally so. Still we shall watch for any new propositions to get rid of this pest. Here is about the last, furnished to the Pittsburg Post, by Mr. A. H. Gross, who claims to have discovered a "perfect remedy." He says:

This remedy has been used with decided success, by gentlemen in possession of large plum orchards, and is also favorably noticed by some of the agricultural farmers, to which I would add my own experience of its being what is claimed for it—an effective remedy against the curculio. Take Salt of Hartshorn, (Ammonia) 1 ounce; common soft soap, 1 pint. Dilute and dissolve with three gallons of water. Apply this preparation with a syringe to the foliage and fruit of the tree, in the morning. Repeat twice or thrice a week. Fhe curculio makes the attacks by stinging the plum and depositing its eggs in the wound for about two weeks, during which time the remedy should be continued. They commence operations when the fruit is about one fourth grown.

This remedy is not difficult to apply, and we advise to give it a trial.—Ed.

AN ERROR IN ASPARAGUS CULTURE.

A correspondent asks some information, touching the cultivation of this plant, and among other things he says:

"The other day speaking with a neighbor about an Asparagus bed, he said that he had a large bed, and that in the center of it the Asparagus was always best, and grew better than in the rest of the bed. Some time after, having occasion to dig a cellar in this bed, he found a large rock exactly in the center of it, and near the surface. He supposed the reason of the Asparagus growing better in this particular spot was, because the rock caused the roots to stop in their downward course, and so causing more of the strength and life of the plant, to go into the top.

One of these days wont you give us an article on this in your paper? or at least your opinion of it?" Geo. W. Taylor.

A rock is a very good foundation for a house, but a very poor one in our opinion for any species of vegetable. We have had as much to do with rocks, as any of our brethren of the plow, and our motto has long been "Dirt bottom for every thing that grows." If there was a better growth of Asparagus in that bed, over that rock, (a statement that we should want to see demonstrated by weight and measure,) it must have been for some other reason, than because the rock was there. Yet the idea is a very common one, that a rocky bed furnishes the best foundation for this plant. Most trees and plants have roots in proportion to their tops. If we wish to increase their tops we must give a wider and deeper breadth of soil to their roots. We do not think Asparagus is any exception to this principle.

In preparing a bed we lay a foundation of loose cobble stones, oyster shells, or bones, not for the purpose of hindering the growth of the roots, but to foster their growth by drainage, above the draining material, there should be two feet of manure, and rich mold. If a portion of it it marsh mud, it wil be all the better. It wants a good deal of manure both spring and fall. With a good dirt bottom, in well drained land, and a heavy dressing of manure twice a year, you will have good stout Asparagus. Rocks are very good in their place, but the further off from the roots of plants the better. Every Asparagus plant when set should have four square feet of surface to grow in. Set the plants two feet apart each way. If you want giant Asparagus, give more room and make the soil richer.—[Ed.

HYBRIDIZING OF PLANTS—FACTS VS. THEORIES.

Editor American Agriculturist:

In your paper for the present month, the substance of your remarks on potatoes in respect to hybridizing implies that two varieties will not mix except in a new production through the seed.

As my experience conflicts with your theory, I offer it for your consideration.

A few years since my brother planted the white kidney next to some red potatoes. The result was that many of the kidneys were streaked with red.

Again. Some four or five years ago I saw the Yam potatoes planted next to the common black. The cross proved to be a black potato in form about half way between the two kinds planted, and in quality perfectly worthless for the table.

And a third instance, which I have particularly noticed, is that in which my brother planted Early Sovereigns, three or four years in succession, adjoining Mercers, and at the end of that time there was not a single Sovereign true to the original. I. R.

Pelham, N. Y., June, 1856.

Remarks:—We give place to the above instances of supposed crossing of different varieties of potatoes, because similar facts are quite common, and almost every attentive observer has noticed similar appearances. It is however unphilosophical to infer from these facts, that there is any hybridizing, or new variety originated, that would perpetuate its kind.

We should account for these facts by a different theory. In regard to case No. 1, we had a similar case upon our own potato patch last season. We planted some long red California potatoes. In digging them we noticed quite a number of white potatoes among them, having all the characteristics of the Californias, except the color. Upon inquiry we found that this variety. It is no uncommon thing for plants, especially highly cultivated plants like the potato to produce variations from the common type. We have seen Mercers tinged with blue, upon the outside, and streaked within, looking almost like another variety. This propensity to sport, is a wise provision of the Creator, for the improvement of all plants. The accidental qualities may be fixed by propagation in some plants, and thus a new variety or rather sub-variety be originated. The white kidneys streaked with red, were not a cross, and probably would not have perpetuated the red streaks. If it be asked, what caused the red stripes, we can not tell any more than we can tell why the Hydringea planted in garden mold gives a flower of rose color, and planted in swamp earth gives flowers of blue. We are confident it was some accidental quality in the earth, and not its neighboring red potato that furnished the coloring matter for its skin.

As for case No. 2, if by it is meant the southern tuber that commonly bears that name, there must be a mistake. The cross of an Irish potato, with any variety of the sweet potato we believe to be an impossibility. If it is asserted that the product of one variety of the Irish potato, bore some resemblance to another, we would account for it as for case No. 1.

Case No. 3, is a change in the habits of a plant, made by acclimation, of which there are abundant parallels. It is well known that Canada corn brought to the latitude of New-York, ripens later every successive year, until its period of maturity is conformed to the necessities of the climate. The early Sovereign, is a potato of English origin, and we have no doubt that its cultivation in this country, for four years, would prolong its period of maturity, and greatly enlarge its size. The change in the character of a potato by cultivation, is a matter of common observation. Most new seedlings are rank growers, and coarse flesh. Cultivation improves their quality, enlarges the proportion of starch, and makes them more mealy. But what is gained in starch, is lost in stamina, and an old potato, like the Mercer, becomes too weak to perpetuate itself.

We do not believe that tubers are ever crossed through the root as our correspondent supposes, and we account for his facts, by the above well recognized principles.–[Ed.

ORIGINAL RECIPES.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Boston Loaf.—When you were trying some of our New-England bread, or Boston Loaf as it is usually called, you requested a recipe of the same for your paper, which I here inclose.

Take two quarts of coarse Indian mea and add sufficient boiling water to make a stiff pudding, stirring till thoroughly scalded. When cool add one quart of unbolted rye meal, one half pint of molasses and a little salt, mixing the whole till a trifle stiffer than Indian mush. Bake in deep iron dishes with a steady heat for several hours.

The Indian and Rye meal should both be sifted in a coarse sieve before using, to take out the hulls. Laurie.

Indian Pudding.—Scald say one quart of milk and stir in sufficient Indian meal—yellow is preferable—to make it of the consistency of gruel; when cool sweeten with sugar, and spice to taste using cinnamon, ginger and nutmeg, also a little salt: add a little suet or butter and some raisins or fine chopped apples and bake from one to too hours.

Sallie Lunn.—Mix 3 pints sifted wheat flour, 1 pint milk, 3 eggs; ¼ lb. butter, 1 cup white sugar and 1 gill of yeast. Let the sponge stand till it is quite light; then put in deep pans and bake one hour. To be eaten while hot, with butter.

APPLE PIES WITHOUT APPLES.

The following receipt is now being sold in some parts of the country for fifty cents, and an injunction of secrecy at that. If it is worth fifty cents to you, reader, just credit the Agriculturist with half your subscription returned. We would like to keep a running account, so that you may know whether you get your money's worth during the year. Well, for the pies—we mean the receipt. Good or not, you will of course not *buy* the receipt now:

"Dissolve two-thirds of a tea-spoonful of tartaric acid in two cups of water; halve three crackers, and put them into the solution, letting them remain until thoroughly soaked, then place them carefully in the pie, and pour on the acid water remaining. Then sprinkle on cinnamon, and afterwards a cup of sugar, add a piece of butter the size of a walnut, and a little salt."

A WORD FOR THE TYPES.

We suppose few of our readers have any idea of the amount of manual as well as mental labor expended upon a single number of the Agriculturist. Take, for example, the letters, which are all single pieces of metal. Then there are also spaces between the words, as well as little slips of lead between the lines. In printing this July number we have used about *half a million* [500,000] pieces of metal. Had these all been placed in a box or on a table, and one of our boy or girl readers undertaken to have counted them, at the rate of 25 a minute, or fifteen thousand during each day's work of ten hours, it would have occupied over *thirty three working days*, or about one and a quarter months to have simply counted the pieces used. Yet our printers have taken this type from the forms of the June number, distributed the letters, spaces, &c., into appropriate boxes, and then picked them all up again and arranged them in the present order. You will see that the letters are all or nearly all right side up, the words are properly spaced so that a certain number of words occurring together, should just make up a line, and the whole 24 pages are properly arranged, paged, &c. Is it any wonder that sometimes an error in a single word or letter should occur? Is it not a wonder that there are so few of these errors? We will give you an illustration or two to show how much difference the exchange of a single letter will make. In the type cases the letter *c*, resembles an *o*, and owing to this, but a short time since we noticed in one of our exchange papers, the sale of 5,000 bushels of *cats*. Another paper has an article upon milking a *crow* three times a day. Our April number had a head line on "Early *Tomatoes*." The article itself treated of Early Potatoes. In the May number, an article was headed "Set out a Fruit Tree;" the heavy roller of the steam press broke off the top of the word *set*, and the last copies of the paper had an article headed "Out a Fruit Tree."

So much for our printers. We will say nothing of our mental work in collecting fifty or sixty articles and items from a great number of sources, where ten to twenty articles are examined and read, for every one selected for these columns.—[Ed.

VALUABLE NEW BOOKS.

The American Handbook of Ornamental Trees, by Thomas Meehan, Gardener, Philadelphia. J. B. Lippincott & Co. 1856.—This book owes its origin to a purpose of the author to describe, somewhat minutely, the trees in the famous old garden of the botanist, **Bartram**, near Philadelphia. Such a work of itself would have been interesting to all lovers of rare trees. But the writer having proceeded thus far, was induced by friendly advisers to enlarge his plan and to prepare a more general work, concerning all known ornamental trees suited to the climate of North America. So far as we can judge, he has done his work. He set out with a determination to be accurate in his descriptions, and has asserted nothing which is not the result of his own experience and observation.

In the introductory chapters, he treats of soils, the choice of trees, raising of trees, the best size for transplanting, the best season in which to plant, the operation of transplanting, pruning, &c. This part of the volume is very valuable: it contains suggestions rarely found elsewhere; and they are given in the fewest possible words.

When he proceeds to describe individual trees, he seems to us unnecessarily brief. Especially, when he speaks of the newer and rarer trees, deciduous and evergreen, he hardly satisfies us. We want to know all about them. Above all things, we desire to know, definitely and positively, how far north they are *hardy*, what soils, aspect and peculiar treatment they require, if any, &c. His book would have been more complete, also, if he had given us an index at the close, referring to the page on which each tree is spoken of. These things can be corrected in a future edition.

We heartily welcome this volume as an important contribution to the literature of trees. It will stimulate zeal, and impart useful information, and serve to promote the real adornment of our public grounds and our homes. G.

Marbles, Marble and Stone Cutting.—There were in this county 14,076 stone and marble cutters in 1850, and the number has increased largely during the last five years. We know a number of these are readers of the Agriculturist, and they will be glad to be informed that a work devoted to their business—the first one published in this country—has been recently prepared. A glance at the contents will show at once that other persons, not of the craft, will be interested in procuring a copy. It is styled

The Marble Worker's Manual; Designed for the Use of Marble Workers, Builders and Owners of Houses, containing Practical Information respecting Marbles in General; their Cutting, Working, and Polishing; Veneering of Marbles; Painting upon and Glazing of Artificial Marble and Mosaics, Stuccos, Cements; Receipts, Secrets, &c. &c.

This is a translation from a most valuable French work by Miss M. L. Booth, with an Appendix concerning American Marbles. Published by Sheldon, Blakeman & Co. New York Price $1.

The Earnest Man.—This is a valuable work by Mrs. H. C. Conant, which gives a sketch of the character and labors of Adoniram Judson, first missionary to Burmah. The name of Judson has become a household word in this country. He is well styled the "Earnest Man," for his life was one of continued, earnest labor in behalf of his race. The character of the man, as set forth by Mrs. C., furnishes a fine example for those who would live not for self alone, while the incidents connected with his foreign labors are entertaining. Published by Phillips, Sampson & Co., Boston; for sale by Livermore & Rudd.

Early History of Michigan.—We have been much interested in the perusal of a volume bearing this title, recently issued by Messrs. A. S. Barnes & Co., of this city. There is an almost unlimited store of manuscript, as well as unwritten but reliable traditionary history of the early settlements, &c., of many parts of our country. Occasionally we find a volume devoted to gathering, arranging, and systematising the records of some particular locality. Such books, when good, seldom remunerate the writers, from the circumstance of their having but a local interest, while many of them are comparatively worthless, owing to a lack of labor and care on the part of the authors or compilers. This objection is not to be brought against the book before us. We have been personally cognizant of the care and unwearied diligence of the author, Mrs. E. M. Shelden, while she has labored night and day, month after month, almost year after year, in her efforts to gather the materials of the work before us. The volume will be peculiarly valuable to every resident of the Peninsular State, and they are under high obligations to the author for rescuing from oblivion these chapters in the early history of their native or adopted home. There are many things in this work which make it valuable as a part of the history of the county, and the volume will prove an acceptable addition in many public and private libraries elsewhere than in Michigan.

U. S. Magazine.—The July number (Vol. 3, No. 1) of this Magazine is before us. It is highly illustrated, comprises a large amount of useful and entertaining matter, and promises to take a prominent place among the leading magazines of the country. $2 a year. T. M. Emerson & Co., New-York.

A Courageous Woman.—*Benefit of Presence of Mind.*—In Jersey City not long since a lady was awakened by a burglar in the room, and demanded the cause of his intrusion, when he stepped to her bedside, and raising his clenched fist said, "Be still or I'll take your life!" "Take my life, ha!" responded our undaunted heroine, "take care you don't have *your own* taken!" and suiting the action to the word, she said, "John, hand me that pistol!" Now, although there was no John in the room, (the heroic lady being all alone,) yet her Spartan courage had the desired effect, and the burglar, with several of his accomplices, fled from the premises without carrying off any booty.

A butterfly basked on a baby's grave,
Where a lily had chanced to grow;
"Why art thou here with a gaudy dye,
While she of the bright and sparkling eye
Must sleep in a church-yard low?"

Then it lightly soared through the sunny air,
And spoke from its airy track;
"I was a worm till I won my wings,
And she whom thou mourneth, like a seraph sings;
Wouldst thou call the blest one back?"

Birds poisoned by painted Cages.—It is not safe to keep birds in painted wire cages, especially in warm weather. The paint softens in the heat, the birds are apt to nibble it, and to get poisoned. This is a fact, and those having valuable birds in such cages should remove them.

EXTRACTS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

Lockport, N. Y.—Mr. A. E. Raymond, writes June 18th: "The average surface of wheat sown last fall did not exceed half that of the previous year, the insects, and rains having rendered the former crop hardly worth harvesting. However, may old wheat raisers, unwilling to give it up, have sown in the usual manner, and the prospect is favorable for a good yield if the crop is not destroyed by the weevil. We are looking for this destroyer as the little weevil flies are now on the wheat heads in thousands......Rye was sown last fall to a considerable extent, and now looks remarkably well.......Farmers are turning their attention more to Spring crops, since the failure of wheat......There is a general complaint that corn of last years growth has not come up when planted three and even four times over, and we are perplexed to know the reason........Spring crops generally look well. Meadows in clover last year are improved very much, which I attribute to the large body of snow on the ground during the entire freezing weather.......The peach crop promises to be abundant; apples not nearly as many as last year, but still a fair quantity......Your paper is exceedingly valuable, the "Work for the Month," and "Calender of Operations,' set business of the month before one, and this alone in every number, has been worth a years subscription to me.....The old prejudice against 'Book Farming,' is passing away, and farmers find that if they will keep up with their neighbors and with those engaged in other callings they must 'take the papers.'"

Brooklyn, Conn.—Dr. J. B. Whitcomb, writes June, 17th. "Crops are looking very well as a general thing; Corn rather backward, and from its appearance I should judge that most farmers had planted the *yellow* variety—but a few days of warm weather will make it look verdant....Apples promise a medium crop. Peaches none—the trees mostly dead or dying....Plums, few and far between.

Richmond, Va.—A friend visiting the interior of Virginia, writes June 14th. "From observation and what I am told by the farmers themselves, the wheat harvest in this state will hardly be an average one. The severe winter, the fly, and rust have injured it in some places very much; in fact I have seen fields that will not be worth gathering. Corn is late but the recent rains are hastening it forward rapidly. The oat crop is looking very fine. Our correspondent further refers to the farm of Mr. Wm. Allen on the James River, 25 miles below Richmond. He has 1,000 to 1,200 acres in wheat, as much more in corn, and 500 acres of oats, has ten Reapers by different makers and intends increasing the number this year.

Jefferson Co., N. Y.—Mr. L. Kieffer, writes from Stone Mills, June 12th. I have just returned from a trip to the Southern part of this county. Crops there, and here in the northern part, never looked better. The wet spring injured some badly drained, low fields, which was more than compensated by the good effect upon the knolls. Grass is very heavy. The farmers seem to be preparing for a "heavy drink of beer," rather than a crust of bread, as one passing through this section sees nothing but barley, *barley*, BARLEY. An unprecedented hay harvest in prospect.

Lake Co., Ohio.—Mr. C. B. Rising, writes from South Kirtland, June 19th. Wheat looks well throughout the State. Spring wheat was sown late, but promises for a fair crop. Little corn was planted hereabouts until the last week in May, and all ground planted with seed from the cribs. It is supposed the cobs were not dry enough when stored last fall. The growing crop is not advanced enough to speak of its prospects. Oats, late but looking well. Little or no fruit this year; the frost of May 31st, destroyed nearly all the apples. A good hay crop looked for, but many cut less than last year's crop.

Indiana Co., Penn.—Rev. David Mills, writes June, 17, from Newman's Mills, in the western part of the State. Wheat looks well, though little was sown compared with the preceding year, and that sown came up thin, owing probably to part of the seed being spoiled by growing during the wet harvest. The same may be said of rye. Grass looks well, though there is not a large breadth to be cut. Oats, where up, show well. Not much to be said of corn yet. Two or three plantings were required before the ground was needed, and much of it is just up. With an early frost corn would be scarce here. Potatoes were so much rotted last fall, and frozen during winter, that seed was scarce, and a small breadth only planted. Peach and plum trees, nearly all winter-killed, and those remaining are barely alive. Apples promised well until the cold rain, snow and frost of May 31st, which killed nearly all, if not all of the apples, as it did the young growth and blossoms of the grape vines. The young leaves of the trees in field and forest shared the same fate. We have now a fine fruitful rain following; most of the previous rains of the season have come from East or South-East, and worked round to the West, or North-West, ending with stormy cold wind, followed by frost; then a warm spell, again followed by the same round of rain and cold."

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &c.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, June 28, 1856.

Since our last review, (May 29,) there has been a good deal of animation as well as fluctuation in the Breadstuff Market. For a time prices declined considerably, but within the last few days an upward tendency has been exhibited. The sales during a week past have been some 120,000 lbs. of Flour; 500,000 bushels of Wheat and 350,000 bushels of Corn and 82,000 bushels of Rye. The receipts by the Canals are now large. The last news from Europe report extensive rains and freshets in France, which have done much damage to the growing crops.

Our friends in different parts of the country have responded to the request in our last, and from their letters we get a fair report from various sections. Our thanks are due to those who have thus aided in getting correct information. We have presented a few extracts on another page, which are very like hundreds of others. From Maine to Minnesota much of the first and often the second planting of Corn seems to have failed to come up. Those who selected and dried their seed last fall did not suffer from this difficulty. To the damp condition of the crop when gathered last fall is generally attributed the failure of the seed this Spring. With an early frost the Corn crop will be short, but with a late continuance of warm weather the crop will be good--probably very good. Wheat promises a medium crop, though about one-fourth of our correspondents report great fear of insects now at work. The heavy body of snow during the winter preserved the Wheat crop from winter-kill in a great measure.

☞ May we ask for a continuance of reports from our correspendents in every direction. We cannot print these—except to an occasional extent—but they will help to general conclusions for the benefit of all. Letters written as late as possible—if they reach us by July 23, are preferable to those of earlier date.

We find upon our note-book, records of sales in this City for 26 business days, ending to-day: of Flour, 418,470 barrels; of Wheat, 1,403,250 bushels; of Corn, 1,259,800 bushels; of Rye, 218,000 bushels; and of Barley, —— bushels. Our last report, (May 29) for 26 business days gave of Flour, 387,700 barrels; of Wheat, 593,600 bushels; of Corn, 1,099,000 bushels; of Rye 134,700 bushels; and of Barley, 1,800 bus.

The following figures show the present price of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

		May. 29.	June 28.
Flour—Superfine No. 2		$5 00@5 87	$4 50@ 5 25
Ordinary State		6 00@ 6 06	5 25@ 5 50
Mixed Western		5 18@ 6 37	4 85@ 6 25
Favorite and Ex. State		6 12@ 6 50	5 75@ 6 35
Extra Genesee		6 75@ 8 75	6 25@ 8 25
Wheat—Canada White		1 55@ 1 80	1 50@ 1 75
Southern White		1 60@ 1 75	1 37@ 1 67
Southern Red		1 50@ 1 65	1 50@ 1 58
Western Red and White		1 30@ 1 50	1 25@ 1 50
Corn—Western Mixed		59@ 61	40@ 56
.....Yellow and White.		58@ 66	45@ 65
Rye		81@ 86	84@ 86
Barley		1 10@ 1 25	@
Oats—Western, &c		30@ 37	30@ 39
Cotton—Middling		10¾@ 11	11@ 11¼
Rice	℔100lbs	3 50@ 4 37	3 62@ 4 50
Pork—Mess	℔ bbl.	16 50@18 50	17 25@20 50
Dressed Hogs	℔ lb.	8@ 8⅜	7½@ 8½
Lard, in bbls	℔ lb.	10½@ 11	11@ 12
Butter—Western	℔ lb.	11@ 16	15@ 19
State	℔ lb.	16@ 22	18@ 25
Cheese	℔ lb.	6@ 9	6@ 9
Potatoes—Carters	℔ bbl.	1 37@ 1 50	2 25@ 2 50
Mercers	℔ bbl.	1 37@ 1 75	2 00@ 2 25
Onions—Reds	℔ bbl.	1 25@ 1 50	1 50@ 1 75
White	℔ bbl.	2 00@ 2 75	2 00@ 2 50
Apples	℔ bbl.	1 00@ 3 50	1 50@ 3 50

Beef cattle have been in fair supply during the month and at fair prices on the second and fourth weekly market days. On the first and third market days, a successful combination raised the prices materially, though not for the advantage of the producers. Ohio and Illinois furnish the main supplies. On Wednesday of this week the prices ranged at forty-fourth street: Premium cattle 10¼c. a11c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 10c.a10½c.; Medium quality, 9½c.a 10c.; Poor quality, 8½c.a9c.; Poorest quality 8¾c.a8½c.; General selling prices, 9c.a 10½c. Average of all sales about 9½c.a10c. Sheep are getting more plentiful, but still bring fair rates. We weighed a number we saw sold this week and found them to range at 4c a5c. per lb. for live weight. Some extras brought still higher prices.

Strawberries have been about as abundant as last year. The common kinds are now selling by the bushel at rates equivalent to about 12 to 15 cents per quart.

Guano is unchanged from the rates given in detail last month.

THE WEATHER, for the past month, has been rainy and quite cool a part of the time, too much so for the rapid growth of Indian corn, but favorable to grass. Several days have been quite warm, and two days excessively so. We have letters from about every section of the country, which speak of Indian corn as having failed to come up at the first planting, and in many cases it required a third planting. The later letters speak encouragingly for all kinds of crops.

Our weather notes condensed, read: May 31, very cold, and heavy snow reported at Pittsburg, Pa; June 1, clear and cold; 2, clear and warm; 3, 4, warm, (88°) with showers; 5, 6, cold N. E. rain; 7, cleared up early, and pleasant; 8, rain in evening; 9, showery; 10, 11, pleasant and warm (83°); 12, cloudy, showery, P. M.; 13, 14, warm and showers; 15, 16, clear and warm; 17, warm, rainy, P. M.; 18, rainy; 19, 20, clear and warm (86°); 21, 22, very hot (95°); 23, showery; 24, cloudy; 25, 26, cool and cloudy; 27, warm.

NEWSPAPER STATISTICS.—The editor of the Washington, (D. C.) Spectator, designs to publish, about August next, a list of all the periodicals, from monthlies to dailies, in the United States—embracing California and the Territories—with terms and general character, so far as he can ascertain them.

To aid in making up his list and carrying out his further plan, he invites all publishers to send him three copies of their publications first issued after the 4th of July, (or such as shall contain the fullest accounts of the occurrences of that day.) These he proposes to bind—one set to be filed in the Congressional Library, one in the Smithsonian Institution—the other for his own sanctum.

He also requests this notice may be inserted one or more times in the columns of his contemporaries. Those publishers who will give it a place and send him a copy of their papers containing it, will be furnished with a copy of the list when published.

A WORD FOR OURSELVES.

As stated below, this Volume will close with the year—Commencing with this number, then, there will be six months more in the present Volume, and in order to form the acquaintance of NEW readers, we shall be glad to receive half year subscriptions at this time. As an additional inducement, when desired, we will send the May and June numbers without charge, to all new subscribers for six or twelve months, who commence with this number.

If our present readers can recommend the Agriculturist for what it has been during the past six months, we feel confident they will have additional reasons for doing so hereafter. Our whole efforts shall be directed to make this the best paper in the country, and *all* its income for a year hence shall be devoted to its improvement.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

When the Volume will close—Back Numbers—Extra Copies for Friends—Back Volumes, &c.

We have hitherto preferred to have our Volume commence in Autumn, at the season of the Agricultural Exhibitions, but we find a general desire to have this period correspond with the year. In accordance therewith, we shall continue this Volume until December, making 15 monthly numbers in Volume XV, instead of 12. A full index will be given with the December Issue.

By this arrangement Volume XVI, will commence on January 1st, 1857, and close with that year.

An unexpected large increase of new Subscribers exhausted all of the Extra copies printed for January, February, March and April, and many hundreds more than we could furnish were called for.

Very large extra editions of the May, and June issues were printed, so that we shall be able to supply all who may call for them, either for themselves or friends. We have also on hand a number of copies for October, November and December, 1855—(that is Nos. 1, 2, and 3, of the present Volume.) Those who subscribed in January, can complete the present Volume, that is get the numbers for October, November, and December, by sending 25 cents, or 8 postage stamps

New Subscribers can begin with the May or June numbers when desired.

Any back numbers on hand will be mailed post-paid to any address given, on the reception of 3 postage stamps (nine cents).

☞ Are there not many of our present readers who would esteem it a pleasure to send the American Agriculturist for a year to some neighbor, or to a distant relative or friend? A dollar will often furnish a most acceptable continuous gift, when sent in this way. Scarcely a week or even a day passes in which we do not receive a subscription of this kind. When the paper is so sent we enclose a receipted bill with the first number forwarded, noting upon it the name of the person from whom the money was received. 114—tf

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):
Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.
No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.
By the column or half column, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

TO PUBLISHERS, EDITORS, &C.—

WANTED—By a young man of good scientific and practical education, a situation as

EDITOR OR ASSISTANT EDITOR,
of a weekly or monthly
AGRICULTURAL PAPER
of good standing. A
MODERATE SALARY

—which will be increased if the circulation of the work admits of it—is all that is required.

Specimens of composition sent and the best of references procured by applying to G. T. HAMMOND, "Hillside Farm," Farmingdale Post-office, Long Island. 113–115n62

YOUATT'S CONDITION POWDERS,

For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP and SWINE—cures Heaves, Cough, Glanders, and all diseases resulting from Colds, and which affect the mucous membrane of the lungs, throat and head of the Horse. Also expels Botts and Worms, loosens the hide, improves the appetite, and keeps the animal in good condition. Youatt's Condition Powders are recommended to all who take a pride in preserving the good health and fine appearance of their Stock. Price 50 cents a package. Sold at wholesale by Haviland, Harral & Risley, Wholesale Druggists, No. 39 Warren-st., and by dealers generally. 114–119n70

THE

The WATER-CURE JOURNAL—devoted to Physiology, Hydropathy, and the Laws of Life and Health—with Engravings illustrating the Human System—A Guide to Health and Longevity. Published monthly at $1 a year by FOWLER AND WELLS, 308 Broadway, New York.

GOOD HEALTH IS OUR GREAT WANT.—We can obtain it only by a knowledge of the Laws of Life and the Causes of Disease. All subjects connected with Diet, Exercise, Bathing, Cleanliness, Ventilation, Dwellings, Clothing, Occupation, &c., are clearly presented in the WATER-CURE Journal. Hydropathy is fully explained and applied to all known diseases. Water-Cure is not equaled by any other mode of treatment in those complaints peculiar to Women. Particular directions are given for the treatment of ordinary cases at HOME, so that all may apply it. The Journal is designed for the "People." Believing Health to be the basis of all happiness, we rely on the friends of good Health to place a copy of the Water-Cure Journal in every family in the United States. Single Copy $1 a year; Five Copies, $4; Ten Copies, $7. Now is the time to subscribe. Please address FOWLER AND WELLS, No. 308 Broadway, N. Y. 114-115n71

BUCKWHEAT SEED;

TURNIP SEED;

GARDEN, FIELD and FLOWER SEEDS.

—A large supply of the most desirable varieties of Garden Seeds; a choice and good supply of Flower Seeds; and Grass Seeds of all kinds. Field Seeds—Wheat, Oats, Corn, Barley, &c.

We take great care to have all our seeds fresh and best of their kinds, and offer them for sale at wholesale or retail on most favorable terms.

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York

TURNIP SEED.

We are now prepared to furnish the following sorts, which have given such general satisfaction for past years:

SKIVING'S IMPROVED RUTA BAGA,	50c per pound.
PURPLE TOP RUTA BAGA,	50c per pound.
LARGE WHITE FLAT OR GLOBE DO.	50c per pound.
LARGE WHITE NORFOLK,	50c per pound.
EARLY WHITE STONE,	75c per pound.
YELLOW ABERDEEN,	75c per pound.
YELLOW STONE,	75c per pound.

And at reduced rates in large quantities.

JAMES M. THORBURN & CO.
114-115n72 No. 15 John-street New York.

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York,

offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf PEAR, CHERRIES, PEACHES, PLUMS, and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—116

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—

Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, or sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—116n1212N14 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS

PRICES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1856.

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING. A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

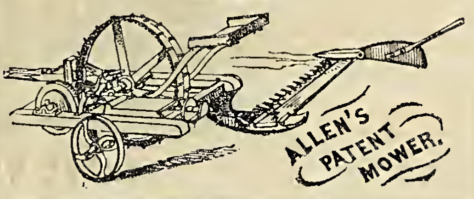
Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
111—tfn41 or at New-Rochelle, N. Y

ALLEN'S MOWER AND REAPER,

THE BEST IN THE UNITED STATES.

To be sure of a Machine you should order at once.


ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.

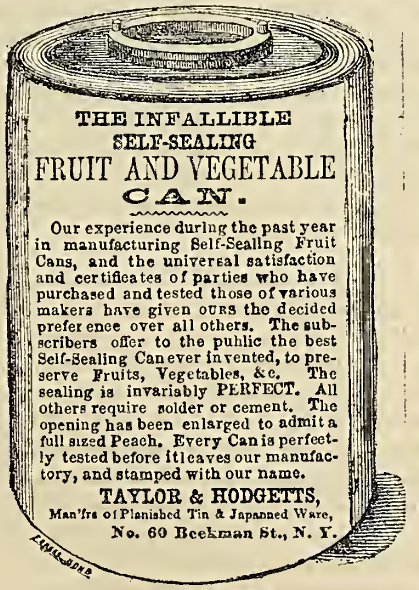
We give a few from more than one hundred testimonials, copies of which can be had on application.

R. L. ALLEN, N. Y.—I have used Allen's Mower for two seasons, and have cut 70 to 80 tons fodder each season. We have used it in light and heavy grass, over rough and level surface, in wet and dry. The machine has succeeded admirably. It has not cost me $2 in two years. It is the best and most perfect mower I ever saw work, being of easy draught, and requiring no more than ordinary walk of horses to do the work well, cutting the grass as low and more level than any hand-mowing. I can cut with ease 12 acres in a day; and, with two horses, weighing 2,100 pounds, (the two,) can follow it day after day. I should like to see any improvement that may come along; but if I could not get such another as Allen's, I would not part with it for $1,000—indeed, for any money. I have had numbers of farmers see my mower work, and they all admit it is the best they ever saw work. JOHN GILES.
Woodstock, Conn., Oct. 25, 1855.

R. L. ALLEN, Sir:—I do not think a better mowing machine can be made than your Allen's Improved. I cut 19 tons of hay off 8 acres with it, and I was only four hours cutting it. Much of the grass was badly lodged and tangled; indeed, I had no idea that a mowing machine would work in it at all. The grass was cut in first-rate style, and no clogging. I have cut, in all, 60 acres, without a cent cost for repairs. It is easy of draught to the horses, and they can be walked slow or quick. It is compact and durable, and easily managed. I saw it worked at Flushing, in June last, when four different patent mowers were worked beside it. I was certainly impartial in my desire to choose the best machine; and I chose yours, (Allens,) as none of them could compare with it in the qualities I have named.
Patchogue, L. I., Nov. 10, 1855. AUSTIN ROE.

R. L. ALLEN, N. Y., Sir:—I can highly recommend your Allen Mower. It is easy draught for a pair of horses. I have used it in very heavy and lodged grass; it cut without clogging, and better than could be done with a scythe. It is durable, compact, and easily managed.

FROST HORTON,
Of the firm of Minor & Horton.
Peekskill, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1855.



THE INFALLIBLE
SELF-SEALING
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE
CAN.

Our experience during the past year in manufacturing Self-Sealing Fruit Cans, and the universal satisfaction and certificates of parties who have purchased and tested those of various makers have given OURS the decided preference over all others. The subscribers offer to the public the best Self-Sealing Can ever invented, to preserve Fruits, Vegetables, &c. The sealing is invariably PERFECT. All others require solder or cement. The opening has been enlarged to admit a full sized Peach. Every Can is perfectly tested before it leaves our manufactory, and stamped with our name.

TAYLOR & HODGETTS,
Man'frs of Planished Tin & Japanned Ware,
No. 60 Beekman St., N. Y.

PRICE LIST.

	Per dozen.		Per dozen.
Quart Cans,	$2 50	Funnels,	$1 00
3 Pint Cans,	3 00	Wrenches,	75
Half-gallon Cans,	3 50	Tops and Screws for sale by the dozen or gross.	
Gallon Cans,	4 50		

114-n75

KETCHUM'S MOWER AND MOWER AND REAPER.

MANNY'S	Mower	and Mower	and Reaper.
HUSSEY'S	do.	do.	do.
McCORMICK'S	do.	do.	do.
ATKINS'	do.	do.	do.
ALLEN'S	do	do.	do.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st.

AYLESBURY DUCKS EGGS.—

A few sittings from prize birds, imported last season, from the best stock in Great Britain, will be furnished during the early part of June, at $10 per dozen.

R. C. McCORMICK, Jr.,
113n64 Woodhaven P. O., Queens County, Long Island.

FIVE DIPLOMAS AND TWO PREMIUMS AWARDED IN 1855.

CANS MADE BY

NEW DOUBLE PATENT PROCESS,

RENDERING LEAKAGE IMPOSSIBLE.

Above is a representation of a Canister, with a patent attachment, designed for preserving fruits and vegetables of all kinds in a perfectly fresh state, with their natural shape, color, and flavor. It is termed the

"SELF-SEALING CAN,"

and so called because soldering is dispensed with in closing up the aperture of the can, and because by the simple turning of a cap, the outward atmosphere is wholly excluded.

With these cans, and directions given with them, such fruits as Apples, Pears, Peaches, Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, &c., &c. and such vegetables as Tomatoes, Green Peas, Green Corn, Beans, and indeed, every species of either, may be preserved for years in their fresh state, without the addition of salt, sugar, or acid, or any other preservative property whatever.

Many of these fruits decay and go to waste upon the trees, bushes, and market places. Now they may be

SAVED AND USED

out of their season, for table or pastry purposes.

With this Canister they can be preserved economically; as sugar and spirits may be dispensed with.

Health is greatly promoted by the free use of

FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES,

while, on the contrary, digestion is greatly impeded, and the digestive organs impaired, by the use of preserved fruits so completely saturated with sugar as are the ordinary sweetmeats preserved by families.

These cans may be used year after year. Full directions for preserving fruit and vegetables accompany the cans. The

MODE IS SO SIMPLE

that an ordinary house-servant, or child ten years of age, need make no error.

A little wrench should be purchased for screwing down the cover tightly, thereby making a perfect job.

N. B.—The

"GENUINE SELF-SEALING CANS"

have cast in letters, upon the top of the cap,

"SPRATT'S PATENT,"

"Wells & Provost, Proprietors, New York."

☞ All the cans are guaranteed to answer

FULLY AND PERFECTLY

the purpose for which they are recommended.

PRICES.

Quart Cans,	per dozen,	$2 50
Half Gallon Cans,	do	3 50
Gallon Cans,	do	5 00
Wrenches,	do	75

WELLS & PROVOST,
Sole Proprietors.

Warehouse for the sale of the Cans, &c., No. 321 Pearl-street, near Franklin square.

☞ A Liberal Discount to Agents.

As evidence of the superiority of Spratt's Patent Can over all others, we give below a list of premiums and diplomas awarded at the fairs of the several Institutions, where they were exhibited last season in competition.

LIST OF DIPLOMAS,
AWARDED DURING 1855.

American Institute, at Crystal Palace, Oct. 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Maryland Institute, held at Baltimore, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Philadelphia Agricultural Society, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
New Jersey State Fair, at Camden, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Summit County Fair, Ohio, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
New York State Fair, Elmira, 1855, 1st Premium.
Connecticut State Fair, Hartford, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
114n74

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL

OVER TWO MILLION OF ACRES

OF

FARMING LANDS,

IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,

ON LONG CREDIT AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and include some of the richest and most fertile prairies in the State, interspersed here and there with magnificent groves of oak and other timber. The road extends from Chicago, on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the northwest extreme of the State, and as all the lands lie within fifteen miles on each side of this road, ready and cheap means are afforded by it for transporting the products of the lands to any of those points, and from thence to Eastern and Southern markets. Moreover, the rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages along the line, and the great increase in population by immigration, etc., afford a substantial and growing home demand for farm produce.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken sod, usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from $2 to $2 50 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern market, and to Cairo for the Southern. The larger yield on the cheap lands of Illinois over the high-priced lands in the Eastern and Middle States, is known to be much more than sufficient to pay the difference of transportation to the Eastern market.

Bituminous coal is mined at several points along the road, and is a cheap and desirable fuel. It can be delivered at several points along the road at $1 50 to $4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord.

Those who think of settling in Iowa or Minnesota, should bear in mind, that lands there of any value, along the water courses, and for many miles inland, have been disposed of—that for those located in the interior, there are no conveniences for transporting the produce to market, railroads not have been introduced there. That to send the produce of these lands one or two hundred miles by wagon to market, would cost much more than the expense of cultivating them; and hence, Government lands thus situated, at $1 25 per acre, are not so good investments as the land of this Company at the prices fixed.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road, and others with which it connects, the operation, of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from $5 to $25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made during the year 1856, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will he deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds vill be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, $150 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

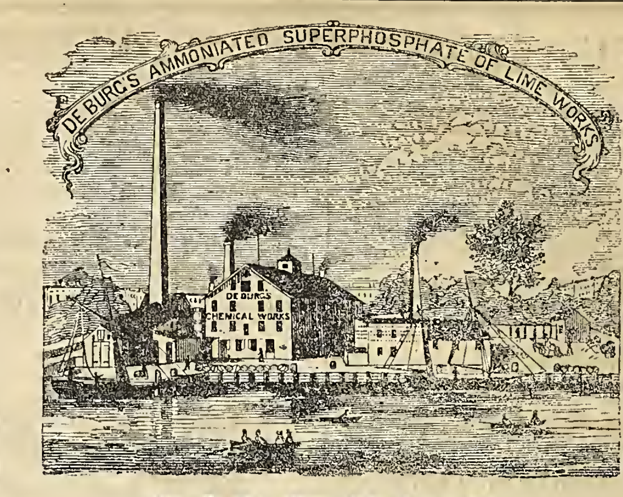
Special arrangements with dealers can be made to supply those purchasing the Company's lands with fencing materials, agricultural tools, and an outfit of provisions in any quantity, at the lowest wholesale prices.

It is believed that the price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter. in English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.

Office, up to the 1st of May, No. 52 Michigan Avenue, Chicago Ill. After that date, in the new stone Passenger Depot, foot of South Water-street. 112—117n51


DE BURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DE BURG'S CHEMICAL WORKS

DEBURG'S
AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my proposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to state that many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feh 1st(orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City.

CASH PRICE, $50 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

C. B. DEBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I.
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.
109—116n

FISH GUANO.—The NARRAGANSETT MANUFACTUING COMPANY, of Providence, R. I., are now prepared to execute orders for their FISH GUANO. They have prepared their Guano after two methods. One by chemically treating, cooking and then drying and grinding the fish to a powder. This is put in bags and sold at $45 per tun.—The other variety is prepared as above (with the exception of drying and grinding,) and is then combined with an absorbant which is in itself a valuable fertilizer, and sold at two dollars per bbl. containing about 200 lbs. The compost is of great strength, and must be a very efficient fertilizer, as it is composed in great part of simple flesh and bones of fish.

Dr. Chas. T. Jackson, of Boston, has made an analysis of the Powder, and says:

"It is similar to the Peruvian Guano in composition, with the exception that the ammonial matter is dried flesh of fish, and not yet putrefied, so as to be ammoniacal. It will, however, produce ammonia by decomposition in the soil. One hundred grains of this manure, dried and finely pulverised, was submitted to analysis, with the following result:

ANALYSIS.

Ammonial matter (flesh or fish) - - - -	48.00
Phosphate of Lime - - - - - - -	33 90
Carbonate of Lime - - - - - - - -	7.60
Sulphate of Lime - - - - - - - -	6.40
Potash of Soda - - - - - - - - -	4.10
	100.00

Respectfully your obedient servant,
CHARLES T. JACKSON,
Assayer to the State of Massachusetts."

Dr. Jackson's opinion of our Guano is expressed in the following note:

Boston, March 9, 1855.

S B. Halliday, Esq.—Dear Sir: In reply to your letter, I would state my entire confidence in the superiority of a properly prepared artificial guano, made from fishes, over that of the natural guano of birds, obtained from the coast of Peru.

It is obvious that more of the nitrogenous, or ammonia-producing substances, exist in fish prepared after your method, than are found in any guano, and hence the artificial preparation will go further in the fertilization of a soil.

The ammoniacal salts act chiefly in bringing the foliage into a healthy and luxuriant condition, and thus cause the plant to absorb more of the phosphate and other necessary salts and substances from the soil, and more carbonic acid from the air. The carbonate of ammonia, also, is a solvent for humus, and it quickly saturates any injurious acid salts that may exist in the soil, and forms from some of them valuable fertilizers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. T. JACKSON, M. D., State Assayer, &c.

This manure is offered to agriculturists with the assurance of its becoming one of the most popular to be obtained. The Company are ready to establish agencies at such places as are desirable for the convenience of farmers. As the supply for the season is rather limited, the Company would esteem it a favor to have orders forwarded early to enable them to lay down at their agencies the requisite quantities in proper time for use. Orders may be addressed to the Company at Providence, or to R. L. Allen, N. Y.; R. H. Pease, Albany; Geo. Buck, Hartford.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Agent.
No, 22 West Water-st., Providence, R. I.
Providence, Jan. 15, 1856. 109—114n16

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful scieences Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No 119 Washington-st., Boston. Sample copies sent when ordered

---

PERUVIAN GUANO—*At lowest market prices*, wholesale and retail—with Government weight and brand on each bag, for sale at the

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT AND SEED
Warehouse of R. L. ALLEN,
Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

ALLEN'S CELEBRATED MOWING MACHINE
CANNOT CLOG.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

BEST No. 1 Peruvian GUANO.

BONE DUST, ground and sawings.
Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For sale by

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE,
AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY,' and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,

C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept 4, 1855.*

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation. (the plants which abound in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address,

WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

N. B.—Plants will be furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs. 111—tfn42

R. L. ALLEN, Esq.—DEAR SIR:—Your Mower (Allen's patent) was first tried on my place at West Farms, and worked greatly to our satisfaction. It was then sent to our farm at East Chester, and cut the entire crop—some 80 acres—without repair or breakage. It does the best work in the best manner, is of comparative easy draught, and cannot be clogged, however wet or soft the grass maybe. I have recommended your Machine to my friends, feeling that I do them a service thereby. Sincerely yours,

EDWARD G. FAILE.
Woodside, Westchester, N. Y., Oct. 17, 1856. 111—12

FRAZEE'S
PATENT UPRIGHT SAW-MILL.

This Mill was invented by Mr. Benjamin Frazee, an experienced mechanic, for which he received letters patent, dated October 18, 1853, since which time a large number of them have been put in operation in different parts of the United States, and their value and efficiency thoroughly tested by practical experiment. It has been examined by hundreds of the best mechanics and machinists in the country, and it has been admitted by all that for cheapness, durability, and efficiency, it is far superior to anything of the kind ever before produced, and that it must eventually take the place of nearly all the mills now in use.

ITS CONSTRUCTION.

It is composed of eight pieces of timber, from five to eight feet long; four pieces of plank, from four to six feet long; and about fifteen hundred pounds of iron; besides two long bed-pieces, a carriage, some small wooden fixtures, pulleys, &c. The common up-and-down saw, six and one-half or seven feet long, is used without sash-gate or mulev, and will saw timber of the largest or smallest size. It is so very simple in its construction that it has but few bearings, and consequently but little friction, and will therefore require much less power to drive it, than the more complicated mills now in general use. As much of the cumbrous machinery of other mills, such as large heavy frames, sash-gates, &c, is dispensed with in this, it is much less liable to get out of order; while its simplicity enables any one of ordinary mechanical ability to repair or build it. The amount of repairs required with fair usage is of insignificant import. Another advantage of this mill is, that its work is superior in smoothness and straightness, and that it cuts away less of the lumber than most other mills.

ITS PORTABILITY.

One great point of superiority in the mill is its portability—the ease with which it can be moved from place to place—taking the few pieces with which it is composed to the logs, instead of hauling the logs from long distances to the mill. This fact in regard to the mill renders the purchase of it, in all cases, a safe investment, as it will always be saleable property. The whole establishment. mill, engine, and boiler, with three or four ox teams, can be easily moved at the rate of from ten to twenty miles per day. Thus, when it has done its work at one place, it is ready to move on, either upon the mountains, in the valleys, or wherever the forest may require its labor.

HOW MUCH IT WILL DO.

Any one of these mills, with our smallest power (eight horse,) is capable of cutting over 6,000 feet of ordinary inch boards every twenty-four hours. It may be made to do much more than this, by an extraneous effort; in fact, one in operation near this city, driven only by a five-horse power, has frequently been timed by a watch, and made to saw at the rate of nine hundred feet per hour. Allowing it, however, to cut but three thousand feet per day, it will at once be perceived by all who are experienced in the business, that in efficiency it has no equal. As it is usually run with steam power, the delays which other mills are often subjected to, waiting for water, or having too much water, repairing dams, &c., are entirely avoided.

PRICE OF MILL WITHOUT POWER.

We furnish these mills, with bolts, screws, belting, saws, forty-eight feet of segments for carriages, and everything all complete, excepting two-long bed-pieces and the carriage, for

FOUR HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS.

The segments we furnish for carriage are sufficient to saw timber twenty-four feet long; but when it is desirable to saw timber more than that length, an extra charge will be made for extra length of segments. A draft, carefully explained and numbered, will be sent with each mill, so that the parts may be readily and accurately put together. The two bed-pieces spoken of should be timber forty-eight feet long and twelve by fourteen inches through, to which the mill is bolted. There being hut little work upon them, it is more desirable to get them where the mill is erected, especially as they would be expensive to transport. The Mill alone weighs about 2,500 pounds.

PRICES OF MILLS WITH POWERS.

The engines and boilers furnished with these Mills are constructed especially for it, and we believe are better calculated for the purposes to which they are designed than any that could be obtained from other manufactories.

The first size is a boiler 10 feet long, 24 tubes 2 1-2 inches in diameter and 7 1-2 feet long, shell over the fire box 44 inches in diameter, shell over the tubes 34 inches in diameter, and engine of 7 inch cylinder and 15 inch stroke. This is a large eight-horse power, and is sufficient to drive the Mill with any rapidity in the hardest and heaviest timber. It is sold with the Mill—the whole establishment weighing about 6,500 pounds—for

TWELVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS.

The second size is a boiler 11 1-2 feet long, 25 tubes 2 1-4 inches in diameter, and 7 1-2 feet long, shell over the fire-box 44 inches in diameter, shell over the tubes 34 inches in diameter, engine same as that described above (7 inch cylinder and 15 inch stroke,) exeepting that it bas extra connections. This is the power that we are now mostly selling with the Mill. It may be rated as good ten horse, and is capable of driving the Mill, together with some other machinery at the same time, such as circular saw for sawing slabs, lath, and other light work. As a little surplus power is always of advantage, we usually recommend this power. It is sold with the mill—the whole weighing about 7,500 pounds—for

FOURTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS.

The third size is a boiler 11 1-2 feet long, 25 tubes 2 1-4 inches in diameter and 7 1-2 feet long, shell over the fire-box 44 inches in diameter, shell over the tubes 34 inches in diameter, engine 8 inch bore and 18 inch stroke. This is a very large ten-horse power, and is rated by some manufacturers as high as twelve-horse. It is sold with the Mill—the whole weighing about 8,000 pounds—for

FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS.

Parties can have larger powers than either of the above for an advance of $100 on each additional horse-power. In these prices smoke pipes, connections, and everything necessary for running are included, and the whole establishment is so put up and boxed, that there is no danger of losses on the way. The Mill may be put up and at work in two or three days after its receipt, at any given place. No building is required, unless the parties choose to erect a rough shed to protect it and the operators from the weather; nor is there any mason-work required for the machinery.

The following letter, selected from a large number of like import, expresses the general estimation in which the Mill is held, after a practical trial. It is proper for us to state that Mr. Hoyt's Mill is driven with one of our eight-horse powers :—

GRIGGSTOWN, N. J.

MR. FRAZEE—Dear Sir—We have now finished putting up the Portable Saw-Mill; have had it running about two weeks, and I MUST praise it. I, as well as the people in this neighborhood, are astonished at its performance. In a word, it runs to our complete satisfaction, and will do all that it was recommended to do. So far as fuel is concerned, the green slabs are sufficient to keep up steam, and now, since putting our exhaust-pipe on our smoke-stack, we can burn up all our dust, thereby saving still more of our fuel—at least one-half. I shall be very happy to show the Mill to all who desire to examine it. Respectfully, G. HOYT,

This Mill may be driven by water power, or any other power that is capable of driving ordinary machinery. We do not think it good economy to use water power when steam power can be obtained as cheap as offered above; yet, when preferred, this Mill possesses all the advantages over other Mills when driven by water power, as when driven by steam, except portability. Several of them driven by water power are now doing good service on streams not large enough to drive ordinary Mills at all.

We make no extra charges for boxing and delivering the Mill and Machinery on board of any line of transportation in this city that may be designated, obtaining the shipping receipts, insurance, and agreements necessary; but we do not agree in any case to deliver it out of the city. The freight on the entire establishment amounts to about five dollars per hundred miles when sent by land, but when shipped by water it is considerably less.

The number of persons required to attend this Mill is two, or one man and a boy. Any small spring will afford a sufficient quantity of water for the boiler.

Strangers visiting the city are respectfully invited to call at our office, and we will direct them to one of these Mills in operation in this City, which is now being visited by large numbers every day. We would suggest to those living at a distance, and who desire a personal examination, that they write to some friend in New-York to make the investigation for them.

The first purchaser of a Mill in any locality is appointed the exclusive Agent of the vicinity, and is allowed a handsome commission on all the Mills and machinery he can sell. No other Agents are wanted.

J. M. EMERSON & CO.,
113-114n68 No. 1 Spruce-st., New-York.

WILLIS'S
PATENT STUMP PULLER

This is a Machine of vast power; and for extracting stumps large or small, it has no equal. It will take out from 12 to 20 an hour, without difficulty, and with but a

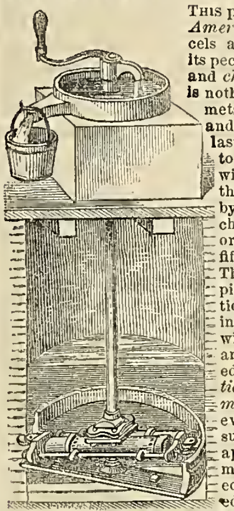
SINGLE YOKE OF OXEN.

It is also the best Machine yet invented for

MOVING BUILDINGS.

All progressive men who desire to bring their waste lands at once into market, or a state of fertility, are invited to address or call on the patentee, WM. W. WILLIS, Orange, Mass., or his agent John Raynolds, at C. M. Saxton & Co.'s No. 140 Fulton-st., N. Y., where a working model may be seen, and other information obtained. 113n66.

Lindsey's Double-Acting
ROTARY FORCE PUMP.



THIS pump has just been patented in *America* and *England*, and far excels any pump heretofore invented; its peculiarities are *simplicity, power*, and *cheapness*. Its simplicity; there is nothing about it but iron and cast metal, and it can be taken apart and put up by any one, and will last for an age. It has the power to raise water *hundreds of feet*, with the extra expense of $3 and the price of pipe. Water rises in it by hand 100 feet per minute! For cheapness; a No. 1. pump (for all ordinary purposes) complete, and fifty feet of pipe, costs but $30! The handle at the top, turns the pipe and pump, and every revolution fills the cylinder twice, affording an abundant supply of water with the least possible expense and labor. It is peculiarly adapted to *deep wells, rail road stations, salt works, mining and manufacturing purposes*. Wherever it is introduced, the old force, suction and chain pumps will disappear. Practical and scientific men pronounce it as without an equal, for all that is here claimed for it. The *Scientific American*, after seeing it in operation, says: "*This pump is very simple in construction, not liable to get out of order, durable, easily operated and economical; we regard it as an excellent improvement.*" Circulars with an accurate drawing and full description sent free of charge to all parts of the country. No. 1, has a one inch pipe; No. 2, 1¼ inches; No. 3, 1½ inches; and the prices $30, $42, $54; the No. 2 and 3 are designed for *very deep wells, railroad stations, &c.* where much water is required. The subscriber is the general agent for the sale of these pumps to all parts of the world, and *exclusive agent for* NEW YORK. Orders must be accompanied by the *cash*, and should be explicit as to the kind of pump wanted, depth of well, shipping address, &c. They will meet prompt attention. A pump and pipe weighs about 170 lbs. No charge for shipping or cartage. Wells over 50 feet should have extra gearing, which costs $3.

JAMES M. EDNEY,
Com. Merchant, 56 John St. N. Y.
For sale by H. LINDSEY, Inventor, Asheville, N. C.
113—118n69

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

HARROWS; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Super-phosphate of Lime, &c.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others :

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

HARVESTING TOOLS.—GRANT'S, HARRIS', WILCOX'S, and other superior GRAIN CRADLES.

GRASS and LAWN SCYTHES of all the most approved Manufacturers.

SCYTHE SNEATHS, both wood and iron—superior articles.

HORSE and HAND HAY RAKES, of every variety.

WHETSTONES and SCYTHE RIFLES.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water st., New-York

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz: Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—DRAINING and IRRIGATION in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines, wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission.

SHIPMAN & HAMMOND,
111—121n48 No. 63 Trinity Buildings. 111 Broadway, N. Y.

GRENOBLE HOSE.—A superior Hose, manufactured of the finest Hemp—a cheap and excellent substitute for Leather and Gutta Percha. It is especially recommended to Planters, Nurserymen, Fire Companies, Steamboats, Manufactories, Dwellings, &c. It costs less than half the price of leather, is lighter, stands as much pressure, is as durable, and is not subjected for its preservation to the expense of oiling or greasing, neither is it injured by frost.

For sale, and orders for importation received in sizes from 1 to 7 inches in diameter, by CHARLES LENZMANN, 54 Cedar-st., New-York, where certificates of its superior qualities can be examined, from Alfred Carson, Esq., Chief Engineer of the New-York Fire Department; from James McFarlan, Esq., Chief Engineer of the Union Ferry Co., and also from official authorities of some of the large cities of Europe. —112n59

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS, (QUEENS PATENT,)

THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—116n1190N8

A WORD TO FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN.—If you have butter, poultry, eggs, or any other articles of table use, which you will sell low for cash please apply to the principal Express Agent in your neighborhood. Likely, we will put him in funds to buy of you if we can agree upon prices.

We are in want of half a tun of nice turkeys, chickens and geese, every week, at our Express Produce Store, No. 33 Broadway. A tun or two of first rate table butter, upon consignment, to sell to consumers would be very acceptable.

Commission for effecting sales, for cash, five per cent, and NO OTHER CHARGES WHATEVER.

A. L. STIMSON,
Agent for the Sale of Farmers' Produce, and the purchase of Goods ordered by Express, No. 33 Broadway, New-York.

REFERENCES—The American Express Company; Wells, Butterfield & Co.; the Adams Express Company; the National Express Company; Thompson & Co.'s Express; and Cheney, Fiske & Co.'s. 110tfn32

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasonable price R. L. ALLEN, 189 Water-st,

Analysis of the Bible.—Some writer thus analyzes the Bible: It is a Book of Laws, to show the right and wrong. It is a Book of Wisdom, that makes the foolish wise. It is a Book of Truth, that detects all human errors. It is a Book of Life, that shows how to avoid everlasting Death. It is the most authentic and entertaining history ever published. It contains the most remote antiquities, the most remarkable events and wonderful occurrences. It is a complete code of laws. It is a perfect body of divinity. It is an unequaled narrative. It is a Book of biography. It is a Book of travels. It is a Book of voyages. It is the best covenant ever made; the best deed ever written. It is the best will, ever executed; the best testament ever signed. It is the young man's best companion. It is the school boy's best instructor. It is the learned man's master-piece. It is the ignorant man's dictionary, and every man's directory. It promises an eternal reward to the faithful and believing. But that which crowns all is the Author. He is without partiality, and without hypocrisy, "With whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

"**Getting Sacked.**"—This very common expression, which is equivalent to "getting the mitten," or a "walking ticket," is said to have originated in the following manner. Two gentlemen, one a Spaniard, the other a German, who were recommended by their birth and services, to the Emperor Maximilian II., both coveted his daughter, the fair Helena Scharfequinn, in marriage. This prince, after a long delay, one day informed them that esteeming them equally, and not being able to bestow a preference, he should leave it to the force and address of the claimants to decide the question. He did not mean, however, to risk the life of either, and consequently, would not permit weapons to be used, but had ordered a large bag to be produced. It was his decree that whoever succeeded in putting his rival into this bag, should obtain the hand of his daughter. This singular encounter between the two gentlemen consequently took place, and before the whole court. The contest lasted for more than a hour, when the Spaniard yielded, and the German, Eberhard Von Talbert, having 'planted' his rival in the bag, took it upon his back, and very gallantly laid it at the feet of his mistress, whom he espoused the next day.

Condensed Truths.—It is not what people eat, but what they digest, that makes them strong. It is not what they gain, but what they save, that makes them rich. It is not what they read, but what they remember, that makes them learned. It is not what they profess, but what they practice that makes them righteous. These are very plain and important truths, too little heeded by gluttons, spendthrifts, bookworms, and hypocrites.

Put the above in your pocket book.

Is a Watch fitted with a second-hand properly called a second-hand watch?

Provident.—A man killing hogs became vexed at some trifling matter, and in his anger vented a wish that the hogs were in a certain *hot* place. "Oh, dear me! what can he mean?" exclaimed a little girl who overheard him. "Mean! I suppose the awful creature wants to have his provisions sent on beforehand."

To One who said, "I do not believe there is an honest man in the world," another replied "It is impossible that one man should know all the world, but quite possible that one may know himself."

"Little boys should be seen and not heard," answered the chap when he could not say his lesson.

INDEX.

Aparagus Culture, an error in........Editorial..233
Bible, Analysis of........240
Birds, Ingenuity of........227
Birds—Poisoned by painted cages......Editorial..235
Blackberry, New Rochelle or Lawton....Editorial..233
Books, Notices of........Editorial..234
Business Notices........236
Calendar of Operations, July, 1856........Editorial. 218
Cattle—Astoria........(Illustrated)..228
" L. G. Morris' sale of........Editorial..223
Chinese Ling or Water Chestnut........Editorial..229
Clover, Plowing in........Editorial..221
Corn and Millet for fodder........Editorial..218
Cows, Difference in........Editorial..228
Crops........Extracts from Correspondents..235
Curculio, again Exterminated........Editorial..233
Editor's farm notes, Farmingdale, L. I....Editorial..221
Evergreen Trees, Attended to........Editorial..232
Exhibitions, Agricultural for 1856........223
" " Value of........Editorial..229
Farming, Does it pay........227
Guano in hill, and no Paper........Editorial..220
Horses, Poll-evil in........Editorial. 221
Hybridizing Plants, Facts vs. Theories....Editorial..233
Insects, Combativeness of........220
Manure, Advantages of keeping covered........219
Manure, Value of high-priced fertilizers........230
Matches poisonous, a warning........Editorial..220
Milkmen, Important to........223
Mowing Machines, Trial of........Editorial..223
Newspaper Statistics........236
New York, Country residences near........Editorial..224
Ourselves, A word for........Editorial..236
Parlor Plants........Editorial..232
Prices, Weather &c., Review of........Editorial..236
Potatoes, Large vs. Small........Editorial..221
Preserving Cans........Editorial..233
Receipes, (Original)—Apple pies, without
apples—Indian Pudding—Sallie Lunn........234
Ruta Bagas, A chapter on........Editorial..219
Sacked, Getting........240
Swine Fattening, Does it pay........Editorial..222
Tennesse, Farm lands in East........Com..226
Tomatoes for Cows........Editorial..228
Turnips raised cheap........Editorial..220
Truths, condensed........240
Types, A word for........Editorial..234
U. S. Agricultural Society........Com..228
U. S. Soil, Products of for 1855........227
Walnut, California........Editorial..230
West, Eastern Farmers Going—No. 4......Editorial..224
Western Farms, Munchausen Stories about. Editorial..225
Wisconsin, Farming in........Com..224
Woman Courageous........235
Words, Using plain........Editorial..221
Work for the Month........Editorial..217

Business Notices.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

☞ **Back Numbers and Back Volumes.**—We have no more of these to spare, previous to Vol. XII—our entire extra edition up to that time having been exhausted.

Of Vols. XII, XIII and XIV, we have several sets, which will be furnished so long as they last, at $1, unbound, or $1 50, neatly bound in muslin.

☞ Back numbers of the present volume can only be supplied from May. Of the May, June and July numbers we have printed a very large extra edition,—probably enough to meet all demands.

American Agriculturist.

FIFTEENTH VOLUME

A Leading and Standard Agricultural Journal,

devoted to the development and improvement of every department of Soil Culture, and adapted equally to the circumstances and wants of those who cultivate SMALL PLOTS of ground or LARGE FARMS.

It is designed to collect and communicate PLAIN, PRACTICAL, and RELIABLE information upon the

Selection of Seeds; the BEST method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various Field and Garden Crops; Fruit Growing; Care, Treatment and Improvement of all kinds of Domestic Animals; the Construction and Embellishment of Farm Buildings; Housing, Preserving, and Marketing the Products of the Farm, Orchard, Garden and Dairy; and to the Domestic or Household labors of the Rural Home.

The proprietor of the Agriculturist—having been trained from childhood to the active labors of a large farm embracing a varied culture, and having devoted a dozen years to studying the principles lying at the foundation of improved soil culture in schools, in the field, in the laboratory, and in traveling for observation—trusts that he will be able to set before the readers of this journal such a collection of sound and practical information as will be to each a continual source of valuable knowledge.

Having no connection, directly or indirectly, with any other business whatever, and owning and controling the columns of this paper, the Editor claims to be entirely independent of all influences which, under other circumstances, might be supposed to modify or govern his opinions or teachings.

Those gentlemen whose labors have contributed so much in years past to the value of the pages of the Agriculturist, still feel a lively interest in its continued and increased prosperity, and they promise their editorial assistance. ☞ The best editorial aid to be found in the country will be continually sought for.

The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month in which it is dated.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ In addition to the above rates:

Postage to Canada	12 cents.
Postage to Europe	24 cents.
Delivered in New-York city	12 cents.

The paper is considered paid for wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st., New-York.

WEEKLY NEWS, MARKET REPORTS, &C.

By an arrangement with Messrs. Raymond, Wcsley & Co., Proprietors of the New York Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly TIMES, the Editor of the Agriculturist is engaged to prepare the Agricultural Department of their papers, including the Reports of the New-York Cattle Markets, &c. The WEEKLY TIMES contains all the matter of the Daily and Semi-Weekly on these subjects, including reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world. (In answer to inquiries it should be stated that Mr. Judd's responsibility for articles in the Times extends only to the Agricultural department.

Those desiring it will be furnished by the Proprietor of the Agriculturist with the two papers combined, as follows:

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 25
Ten copies of both papers one year	17 00

Agents, &c.—Mr. C. Taber, and Mr. A. Whitman, are regularly employed in the office of the American Agriculturist. They will make occasional tours into various parts of the country, to collect notes of the practice and experience of Farmers and Gardeners; and to attend to business matters connected with subscriptions and advertisements. They will at all times carry credentials and regular receipts and other documents of the Office. Any information or assistance rendered to them will be duly appreciated by the Publisher.

Mr. Wm. Lloyd Bowers, of Providence, is our regular accredited agent for Rhode Island, and the adjacent parts of Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

Printed by R. Cunnington, 191 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 11.] NEW-YORK, AUGUST, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 115.

☞ **The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor at 191 Water-st. (near Fulton).**

☞ **All Business and other letters should be addressed to** ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st.,
New-York City.

☞ Personal Letters, or those for the Editor only should be marked *Private.*

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

"Now the strong foliage bears the standards high,
And shoots the tall top-gallants to the sky;
The suckling ears the silken fringes bend,
And pregnant grown, their swelling coats distend;
The loaded stalk, while still the burden grows
O'erhang the space that runs between the rows;
High as a top-field waves the silent grove,
A safe retreat for little thefts of love,
When the pledged roasting ears invite the maid
To meet her swain beneath the new formed shade."

A more truthful picture of an August corn field was never drawn than this which we find in Barlow's Hasty Pudding. It gives us the poetry of the American farm, and we envy not the plow boy that can read it through without a quickening of his blood, felt to his fingers' end. The scenes with which his childhood and youth are identified pass before him, like the changing views of a panorama. We see the whole process of growing the maize, the planting, the weeding, the cultivating, and hoeing, the tasselling corn, the bending ears, the yellow grain bursting through the thick husk, the harvest, the evening husking, the cribbing, the threshing, the meal bags on their way to mill, the home scene of mixing and cooking all the various preparations of the golden meal, the harvest supper of hasty pudding and milk, and the legitimate way of eating the classic dish. Every cultivator ought to have the July Harper, for the sake of this poem.* There is not much romance about farm life, and a literature has yet to be created, that shall glorify it, and make it attractive. We greatly under estimate the power of the imagination, if we suppose that literature has nothing to do with determining our calling in life. The farmer's boy reads of adventures upon the sea by his evening lamp, and long before he is old enough to choose for himself, an inextinguishable desire for a sailor's roving life has filled his heart, and determined his occupation. Our historic literature has glorified war, so that the country never calls to arms in vain. In any just cause of war, death could not thin the ranks of the army so fast as it would fill up. But farm life is full of rugged facts, around which no halo of glory has been thrown by the hand of genius. Poets go ruralizing in woods, along the banks of wild streams, shunning the cultivated field, as if it afforded no themes worthy of the lyre. All our imaginative literature kindles the boy's imagination for other scenes than those of the farm. We know there are exceptions in some of the classic writers of ancient days, and occasional exceptions in the modern English classics. But Cowpers and Thompsons, are rare, even among the rural firesides of England, and Barlow, is almost the only American poet that has left behind him any considerable work, fragrant with the odor of farm-life. We hail with joy any production or republication of works, that throw the charms of poetry around the stern realities of the husbandman's lot.

Our ancestors of the olden time we apprehend were wiser than we in mingling festivities, and outward demonstrations of joy with the ingathering of the summer and autumn harvests. They crowned the wheat sheaves with flowers, they sung, they shouted, they feasted and danced, and made presents to all who had shared the burden of their harvest labors. We have few holidays, and little recreation. We trust the day is not distant when our autumn fairs will be universally attended, and the occasion be made a festival, as well as an exhibition of the products of our farming population.

August is not a principal harvest month with us. It is the turning point, the zenith of the summer's work. The hay, rye and wheat, have been mostly gathered. The business of cultivation is mainly over, and we have time to rest a little before the potatoes and corn are gathered. Oats, barley, peas, and beans are harvested often in this month, but these are not crops of so great importance. The swamp grass and the salt marsh are also cut this month, but this is taken leisurely. Now, for the first time since planting, can we pause for pleasure, or to do any job that wants a leisure day.

"After haying" has been the standard reference of all minor matters for the last two months. "After haying" the boys had the promise of a day's fishing. Then wife was to have the new cistern built and the long journeys to the spring for washing water were to be ended. Then the girls were to take a trip to the sea side, and a long delayed visit of the farmer and his wife was to be made at brother John's. We trust these promises will be kept; for both women and children grow weary with long deferred hopes. The laboring man loses nothing by a little relaxation.

Look out now upon the face of Nature, and study her phases. The forest has lost the freshness of its verdure. The flowers no longer greet you every where. You have to seek them in shady retreats, in swamps, and wet places, where the fall varieties already begin to show their golden blossoms. Toward the close of the month, some of the trees begin to look bronzed, the beech assumes the sere and yellow leaf, and if drought holds on, the maple in dry places turns partially crimson. The birds have mostly reared their broods, and some of them are now rejoicing with their second families. The married couples leave their retreat, and begin to move about in flocks feeding upon the seeds of grasses and weeds, or preying upon insects that now swarm in countless multitudes. It is a wise provision of the Creator, that the birds come in multiplied numbers to check the increase of insect life. The birds are beginning to prepare for their southern journey. The swallows are already upon the wing, holding conventions, and discussing platforms with more than a politician's volubility. They are "southern men with southern principles," and mean to go south to winter.

But the August visits and meditations must be short. There is still work to be done.

CULTIVATING CORN.

It is not yet too late for the corn to profit by stirring the soil between the rows. If the corn is planted thick, dispense with the horse and cultivator, and use the hoe. Let no weeds grow.

RYE AMONG CORN.

Some farmers sow their fall rye among corn the last of the month. The shade facilitates the sprouting of the seed, and gives it a good start before the corn is removed. The hills should be flat where this is done, and the seed should be put in after the last hoeing, with a horse harrow or by hand with a rake.

WINTER WHEAT.

The ground should be ready for sowing wheat very early next month. There is really no necessity for the eastern farmer to pay out so much money for flour. Wheat does well in New-England now, where the ground is properly prepared, and where the crop is put in early. We have very favorable reports of this crop from New-Hampshire, where its cultivation is every year expanding. The ground should be liberally enriched, and limed. Make the soil very mellow. An acre of good wheat will supply an ordinary farmer's family. The winter blue-stem, and the Mediterranean are good varieties.

---

* Joel Barlow's "Hasty Pudding," together with a memoir on Indian Corn, by D. J. Browne, constitute one of Saxton's Rural Hand-Books. The Poem was written in 1793.

SAVING GRASS SEED.

A farmer should pay special attention to this matter. If it grows under his own eye he can assure himself that it is free from white weed, daisy, and other foul seeds. Seeds of weeds, invisible to the eye, are often purchased from the distant city, and a curse is entailed upon the soil for generations. Grow your own seed, and keep your fields clean. It is not a difficult matter to save all the clover seed wanted upon a common sized farm, even without a machine. It may be taken from the second growth of clover, cleaned and threshed like other grass seed. Herds grass also is easily saved. Every dollar, saved in this way, will tell upon the right side of his balance sheet at the close of the year.

SAVE THE GARDEN SEEDS.

These are often overlooked in the hurry of field duties. Carrots, parsnips, turnips, ruta bagas, cabbage, &c., mature early and need attention as soon as they are ripe. Attend to them at the right time, and as soon as they are sufficiently dry, shell, pack, and label them for use, in the spring of 1857. The gardener must take time by the fore-lock.

RUTA BAGAS

need frequent hoeing and a little top dressing of ashes or superphosphate of lime. They will pay for the extra attention.

BUDDING

is attended to this month. It is a very simple operation and a few buds put in every year will soon change the aspect of the fruit yard. Remember a few of the good resolutions made last fall at the Fair, when those splendid prize fruits were before you, visit your neighbor's for buds, and do up the work. Immediately after a rain when the sap flows freely is the best time for budding.

DITCHING AND SWAMP MUD.

Now is the time to kill two birds with one stone, reclaim a piece of waste land, and lay in a good stock of absorbents for the manure yard and stables. The sun has been doing a great work for you in pumping out the water. The work can be done to advantage. There is scarcely a farm that has not its swamp or low land that needs drainage, and with drainage it may be made the best of land. It is now covered with brush and weeds perhaps, and not worth five dollars an acre. If by expending fifty dollars an acre you can make it worth a hundred for cultivation, it will prove a better investment, than any bank stock. We have before us as we write a peat swamp, now covered with a heavy growth of Indian corn and potatoes. Last April, it was covered with brush and weeds, and not worth for pasturage, five dollars an acre. It was purchased with an adjoining lot of upland for less than fifty dollars an acre as the average price of the two lots. The brush was immediately cut, a ditch run through the middle, and plowed, harrowed, and planted. The clearing was a laborious job but the crop from present appearances will pay the expenses of reclaiming, and a piece of waste land will be converted into a beautiful meadow, yielding for years, two or three tons of hay to the acre. That peat land now probably could not be bought for one hundred dollars an acre. By all means dig the muck, whether you reclaim the land or not. All your gravelly and sandy loams are hungering for this carbonaceous matter.—[Ed.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

AUGUST 1856.

[We give from month to month, besides our leading article, "Work for the Month," a Calendar of some of the more important operations in the field, garden, &c. These are adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 42°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north, earlier south. An early season, or a late one advances or retards operations, so that we shall need to revise and adapt these tables to each year.

The letters f. m. l. refer to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month.

Doubling the letters thus: ff., mm., or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

THE FIELD.

Cabbages—as a field crop may still be planted out ff. among potatoes and elsewhere.

Draining wet soils may be done during the leisure of the latter part of this month.

Manure—attend to f. m. l., see that the hogs are well supplied with peat, mold, turf, weeds, &c., throwing in a little corn to induce rooting. Clean out their yards occasionally, adding a little refuse salt to improve the manure. One bushel salt to the cord may safely be applied. Do not permit the contents of the barn yard to be washed into the street. Manure should all be kept covered, but if it is in the yard and washed by the rain, conduct the liquid to a pit filled with peat, weeds, leaves, &c., to absorb it.

Potatoes—dig early ones ff., and if the ground is not already set out to cabbages, it may still be done or turnips may be planted on it.

Thistles—may be partially destroyed by cutting off an inch or two above the ground, the rains will fill the hollow stalks inducing decay.

Timber—cut during this month. Posts, house timber, rails, &c,, cut this month, will last much longer than cut in the winter. A correspondent says, he has sound oak rails cut and split in August, 1808, while those cut in winter only last 10 or 12 years.

Turnips—sow ff. to m. if not already done. Ground which has produced a crop of early potatoes, may now be used for turnips.

Weeds—gather and carry to the hog pen. Those which have gone to seed should be burned.

KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDEN.

Artichokes—dig as wanted, breaking down the stems to encourage offsets.

Asparagus—keep free from weeds.

Borage—for winter use and to stand out, sow m. to l.

Brocoli—plant out ff.

Cabbage—plant out ff. using vacant spots, and ground cleared from early vegetables. Sow f. to m. for collards and for cold frames to be kept for early spring planting.

Cardoons—earth up f. m. l.

Cauliflower—plant out ff. for late.

Celery—earth up the early; plant out for late.

Corn—salad or Fetieus sow ll.

Cucumbers—plant ff. for pickles if not done.

Currant Bushes—Cut out old wood after the fruit is gathered.

Endive—transplant and blanch early.

Fruit—thin where necessary, and support weak branches.

Herbs—balm, mint, sage, &c., gather and dry.

HOE OFTEN—especially in dry weather both to destroy weeds and induce moisture.

Hops—gather in dry weather.

Insects—look after, hang up bottles to trap moths, wasps, beetles, &c. See article on Codling moth.

Lettuce—sow f. m. l. for succession and for autumn.

Mushrooms—make beds, f. to m.

Onions—gather and dry early plantings; sow for seed onions in the spring, ff.

Peas—may still be sown ff.; early plantings which are now ripe may be re-sown producing two crops.

Potatoes—dig early ones ff., using the ground for late crops.

Radishes—sow f. m. l. among other crops.

Raspberries—Cut out old canes which have now ripened their crop.

Seeds—gather as ripe.

Spinach—sow ll. to stand out.

Strawberry beds—make and plant f. to m. See article elsewhere.

Tomatoes may still be planted out ff. for late use. Stake up former plantings or spread brush to run on. See article elsewhere.

Turnips—sow ff. on vacant ground, and among early crops.

Vines, climbers, &c., train a requisite number of well situated shoots for next year's bearing.

Weeding and watering, attend to ff. mm. ll.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

Anemones—sow f. to m.

Annuals—Mignionette and a few other quick growing kinds may still be sown; thin and transplant others, watering freely.

Borders—prepare and sow clarkia, coreopsis, escholtzia, &c., m. to l. for planting out in the spring.

Box edgings and hedges may still be clipped ff. m., cloudy or damp weather.

Carnations, Pinks, Picotees and Pansies, may still be layered, f.: former layers which have become established may be removed and planted out.

Chrysanthemums—Layer f. to m.

Dahlias—cut away weak shoots, and support by stakes; mulch and water, if fine flowers are wanted.

Daisies—propagate f. to m.

Evergreens—may be transplanted m. to ll. in damp weather.

Flower stalks—cut away as they finish blooming.

Gladiolas—stake up as they require.

Grass—mow and roll often, seed may be sown on bare spots l.

Graveled walks—clean and roll f. m. l.

Hoe frequently to destroy weeds, promote growth, and increase moisture.

Insects—destroy by syringing, with whale oil soap, entrapping in bottles, gathering by hand, &c.

Lilies—White, take up m. to l.; Japan, stake and shade those ready to bloom.

Pansies—sow seed for spring blooming.

Perennials—in pots and elsewhere, water.

Plants—which have finished blooming head back or cut down if annuals.

Polyanthus and Ranunculus, sow f. to m.

Roses—bud and layer ff., selecting cloudy weather for the budding.

Seeds—gather as they ripen, keep pure.

Ten Week Stock—sow f. to m.

Tulips—and other bulbous roots which have completed their blooming season, take up ff. if not done, remove offsets; sow seed f. to m.

Water in the evening during dry weather.

Weed carefully f. m. l.

GREEN AND HOT HOUSE.

Air freely every day.

Annuals—sow for winter flowering f. to m.

Azalias—keep shaded and syringe often.

Bark Beds—stir and add to.

Budding—finish this month.

Callas—repot m. to l.

Camelias—repot f. to m., syringing freely. Inarching may still be done.

Chrysanthemums—shift into blooming pots watering with liquid manure; pinch leaders to induce side shoots and a bushy habit.

Cinerarias—those which have done blooming should have their tops cut off: repot and sow seed now for early blooming plants next year.

Cuttings of succulent plants may be made ff., watering slips freely.

Fumigate often to destroy the green fly and aphis.

Gloxinias which have done blooming may be allowed to dry off.

Grapes—remove damaged fruit as it appears, giving liquid manure to those beginning to ripen. Keep sashes open day and night to ripen the wood.

Heliotropes—prepare for winter blooming.

Houses should now be looked to; cleanse thoroughly, paint and glaze if necessary, putting furnaces in order.

Insects—search carefully for and destroy: see last month. Aphides and Red spiders may be destroyed by whale-oil soap.

Layering may still be done ff.

Oranges and lemons—continue to bud ff.

Pelargoniums repot, and pot new cuttings as soon as rooted.

Pines—complete shifting; water freely, and shade till well established.

Pots—clean moss from and pick off decayed leaves.

Potting—complete this mostly f. to m.

Pruning—cut back weak growing plants to induce bushy habits.

Roses—make cuttings m. to l. Repot and head back those intended for winter blooming.

Sow clarkia and coreopsis to flower during the winter.

Suckers and offsets may still be made ff.

Syringe often in the evening, and keep the floors damp to assist in maintaining a humid atmosphere.

Verbenas—Petunias and Geraniums, may now be prepared for winter and early spring blooming.

Water freely both in and out of the houses.

ORCHARD AND NURSERY.

Apples, pears and the stone fruits which fall prematurely from the effects of insects, should be gathered every day if not eaten by hogs, sheep, &c.: cook them to destroy the worms they usually contain.

Budding—continue ff. on Plums, Pears, and Apples; Peaches may be budded m. to l. Look to buds put in last month and loosen bandages, rebudding failures.

Caterpillars—late: look after and destroy early in the morning while the dew is on. See June Number.

Cherry-pits—plant or mix with earth as soon as collected.

Fruit—thin out heavy crops ff. to m.

Hoeing—continue in the nursery, and keep down grass and weeds around trees in the orchard for a space of three feet from the trunk.

Insects—destroy ff. See articles on the Apple-worm, Squash-bug, &c.

Plow and cultivate among the nursery rows.

Pruning—finish ff. to m.

Vines—Grapes, Honeysuckles, &c., clear from useless shoots, and layer ff.

APPLICATION OF FISH TO GROWING CROPS.

We find upon inquiry that it is still a very common practice to spread Menhaden upon the corn and potato fields, without covering. It has been stated by a farmer of Madison, Ct., that in the fishing season of 1848, about twenty millions of this fish were caught and used in that town for manure, a number sufficient to manure sixteen hundred acres of land, at the rate of twenty thousand fish to the acre—at an expense of twenty thousand dollars. A large part of the fish caught in the first of the season was applied to the potato crop, spread on the surface after planting up to the time of the second hoeing, and slightly mixed with the soil in cultivation. A great part of the remainder were spread on the surface of grass land, and suffered to remain exposed to the atmosphere through the season, and some few of them were plowed in or composted with muck or soil.

Fish can be applied to growing corn and potatoes, and where they can be procured early in the season, we are inclined to think this the best way of using them. But the common method of spreading them upon the surface, is as wasteful as it is disgusting. The odor is intolerable all through those districts where fish are applied in this way.

Some put them in at the side of the hill with the hoe, digging a hole and covering. This no doubt is a very effectual method of saving all the manure, but it is very expensive, as it costs about twice as much to treat a crop in this way as to plant it.

They may be put in quite as well with the plow, and with less than half the trouble. Take a small horse plow and run it as close to the growing corn or potatoes as possible, without disturbing the roots, or burying the tops. The best time is when the young plants are from three to six inches high. When you have made one furrow, take the next alternate space, and make another furrow. Repeat the round making two furrows in a place. This will give you a furrow five or six inches deep in which to drop the fish. Go through with the whole piece in this manner, then drop your fish, two by the side of each hill, in the bottom of each furrow. With a one horse cart, the fish can be drawn on to the field, and dropped in heaps three or four rods apart, without much damage to the growing crop. When the fish are properly dropped, cover with the plow, and prepare to manure the alternate rows in the same manner as before. When this is done drop the fish and cover again. It takes six furrows in each alternate space to bury the fish properly by the side of each hill. It takes from eight to ten thousand fish to go over an acre in this way, according as the hills are planted more or less remote. The plowing we think is worth all it costs as a means of cultivating the land. It makes it very light and easily penetrated by the roots of plants. In smooth land the fish are very perfectly covered in this way, and little effluvia will arise. In stony soil it will be necessary to go through the piece, with the hoe, to cover occasionally a fish that has been left by the plow.

It is somewhat expensive to bury fish in this way, but we are persuaded it costs far more to spread them without covering. Capital expended in fish applied to the growing crops in June or July, brings in its return in about three months. This is an item worth looking at where capital is used so sparingly as it is in farming.

Fish caught in August and September, can not be used in this way. If applied to wheat and rye, they should be plowed in the same day they are spread, and where neighbors own nets and fish in company, as is quite common, they should also plow in company, to save the manure. By exchanging the work of men and teams, every man may have his field for winter grain fished one day, and plowed the next. This would save all the manure, and also save that ancient and fish like smell, that afflicts the sea board farmers during the summer. This offensive odor, with many is an objection to the use of fish. It is not at all necessary but is only an incident of bad husbandry, destined soon to pass away.

Where the fish are not designed to be used immediately, they should be composted with swamp mud, muck, and peat, or where this can not be had, with loam. A barrel of fish will convert a cart load of muck into a valuable manure. This compost will be an excellent dressing for grass land, and for all hoed crops next spring. Fish is a much more concentrated fertilizer than stable manure, and large quantities of muck should be used in connection with it, in order to keep the land in balance. To the farmer near the shore it is the cheapest fertilizer he can use and our advice to him is to procure all the fish and muck possible during the remaining summer and autumn months.—[Ed.

BUCKWHEAT AS A GREEN CROP.

The practice of turning in clover, buckwheat, and other green crops for manure, is very little followed in New England. The abundance of muck, and the high price of all kinds of fodder have probably prevented this mode of enriching the soil. It seems a waste to the northern farmer to turn in a heavy crop of clover, worth, standing upon the field, ten or fifteen dollars per acre. He has never paid out that amount of money for manure upon an acre of his farm, and he does not believe it will pay.

But in many localities, remote from the muck swamp, we are persuaded that plowing under green crops is the cheapest method of renovating worn out land. Last summer we turned in a crop of buckwheat, and from the working of the soil this season, and the healthy appearance of the crops, we are confident it was a good operation.

In a recent visit to Danielsonville, Conn., we saw a fine crop of rye upon land that had been renovated by this green crop alone. It was upon the farm of one of the manufacturing companies under the management of A. B. Lockwood, Esq. It was the fourth crop taken from the same land, in four years. Buckwheat matures more rapidly than clover, and two crops may be turned under in one season. This was done the first year upon the above land—a very light sandy soil upon the banks of the Quinebaug. In the fall it has been sown with rye. The crop is taken off about the middle of July, and the land immediately plowed and sowed with buckwheat. This is plowed in before the seed begins to ripen and rye is sown immediately. Thus the ground is manured and cropped every year.

The result of this process we are informed is satisfactory. The yield of rye increases every year, and the cost of the rye is about fifty cents a bushel. The yield this year, we think, will be full twenty bushels to the acre.

There is a great deal of land sown to rye, that produces less than ten bushels to the acre, and it costs probably from seventy-five cents to one dollar a bushel to raise it with such a yield. This is certainly very poor cultivation, if it can be grown upon the same land at half the cost. This experiment of Mr. Lockwood is suggestive. The question now arises whether it is not cheaper to manure land by turning in green crops, than to cart muck. We should like to see some comparative experiments carried on for a term of five years to determine this question.

If buckwheat is sowed the first week in August, it will be large enough to plow under for rye the last week in September. If the land is sandy or very much exhausted, it would probably pay well to sow 200 pounds of Peruvian guano to the acre with the buckwheat.—[Ed.

WHEAT INSECTS—WEEVIL, HESSIAN FLY, MIDGE, &C.—WHICH IS IT.

Among a large number of letters referring to the wheat crop, we find several referring to injuries from insects. In nearly every case the insect is called either the Weevil or Hessian fly, while we have reason for supposing the depredations are committed by an entirely different animal. To furnish the means of greater accuracy in these reports, we give a brief description of three of the insects which are the most destructive to the wheat crop. A full and detailed description of several kinds of grain pests may be found by referring to the American Agriculturist, for August 23, 1855—(No. 102 of the New Series).

The Hessian Fly (*Cecidomya destructor*) was so called because introduced in the grain brought over by the Hessian soldiers employed by the British during the Revolutionary war. It was first discovered on Long Island, near New-York, and from that point has extended its ravages in all directions, its usual rate of advance being from fifteen to twenty-five miles a year. There is a parasitic enemy which multiplies faster than the Hessian fly, and which exterminates the latter after it has prevailed for a few years in any locality. The full grown Hessian fly is nearly the size of a small mosquito, which it resembles in general form, having a larger thorax or chest, and a smaller abdomen or belly. It has no blood-sucking bill. It breeds twice a year. The first brood of eggs, which are very small reddish grains, are deposited in the upper channel of the wheat leaf soon after the stalks begin to branch out. Late-sown wheat escapes its attacks. The eggs hatch in about 15 days, producing a small worm which works its way down between the leaf-sheath and stalk, where, in the form of a white or spotted maggot, it lies concealed, and sucks out the juice of the plant. In a few weeks it changes to a pupa or chrysalis state, in shape like a flax seed. In this state it lies until the following Spring, when it comes forth a perfect fly, and then deposits a second brood of eggs, from which a worm is hatched that attacks the wheat stalk above the ground, but near the lower joints. It is the extraction of the juice that weakens the stalk, causing it to crinkle and bend down before harvest. The grain on stalks thus attacked fails to fill out or mature. Let it be noted then that *the Hessian fly attacks only the stalk and not the grain.*

The Grain Weevil (*Calandra Granaria*, or *Circulio Granarius* of Linnæus.) This insect preys only upon the *grain*, commencing its ravages about the time of ripening, and continuing them long after it is gathered into the granary; hence the name of *grain* or *granary* Weevil. The perfected female Weevil punctures the ripened or nearly ripened grain with her rostrum or beak, and deposits one and sometimes two eggs. From the egg a grub or worm is hatched, which eats its way into the kernel, closing up the aperture behind it with excrements, so that it lies concealed from observation, and shielded from external injury. This worm grows to about one-twelfth of an inch in length. Its body is white and soft, with nine rings around it. The head is small, round, yellow-colored, and is provided with boring or cutting instruments. It cuts out most of the flour portion of the kernel, then goes through its transformation and comes out a perfect Weevil, which eats its way out through the shell, and goes forth to deposit its eggs in turn upon other sound kernels. They are very productive, a single pair often multiplying to five or six thousand during a single year. Both the insect and the grub feed upon the grain. The perfect grain Weevil, at the time it deposits its eggs, is a dark red-winged beetle or bug, about an eighth of an inch in length. It has a slender proboscis or snout, curving a little downward. The thorax or chest constitutes about half of the body, and is punctured by a great number of holes, which give it a rough appearance. The abdomen or belly, lying back of the middle ring is covered with thin, delicate wings, which are shielded by wing covers, having lines or furrows upon their surface, parallel with their length. This outline description, with the understanding that the insect is only to be looked for in the nearly-ripened grain, will enable the common observer to decide whether the "*Weevil*" is troubling his wheat field.

The Wheat Midge, Wheat Gnat, and Clear winged Wheat Fly, (*Cecidomya Tritici*,) are synonymous terms used in different parts of the country to indicate the same insect. The latter term, *Clear-Winged Wheat Fly*, is the preferable term. It is this insect, we suspect, which caused most of the injury to the Wheat crop the past season. From personal observation we put it down as *the* chief ravager in the "Genesee country" where the Hessian Fly began and nearly finished its work several years ago. The Clear-winged Fly resembles the Hessian Fly in its general size and form, but differs from the latter in having an orange-colored instead of a black body; *clear* or transparent wings instead of dark; its antennæ or horns are longer and more fringed; its legs are longer and slenderer, and its abdomen or belly is covered with short hairs, and is blunt at the extremity, instead of smooth and pointed like that of the Hessian Fly. It undergoes its changes in the soil, and attacks the *blossoms and soft immature grain* instead of the stalks or ripened grain. The clear-winged wheat flies conceal themselves among the grass and leaves during clear mid-day, but morning and evening, and on cloudy days, they appear in swarms over a Wheat field, and deposit their eggs in the heads. In the course of six or eight days these eggs hatch out *orange-colored* maggots, which feed upon the pollen of the flower, and finally attach themselves to the soft grain. They cannot injure it after it has acquired some degree of hardness. These flies do not make their appearance until the latter part of June or fore part of July, according to the latitude, and early Wheat, or the harder varieties, are less liable to injury. The Red Mediterranean has thus far been less injured than most other varieties.

The yellow or orange-colored Maggots are readily seen—there being frequently as many as twenty or thirty or more upon a single head. We have found several of them upon a single kernel upon carefully removing the chaff or sheath. During the latter part of July and the fore part of August, the Maggots or Worms attain their full size, cast off their skins, descend to the ground and bury themselves half-an-inch or so below the surface, where they remain until the following season, when they come forth to multiply and continue their depredations. The swarms of flies over a field and an examination of the Maggots, will enable any one to decide whether the clear-winged fly or Midge is at work.—[Ed.

TRYING THE DRAFT OF MOWING MACHINES.

We are carefully watching the operation of the various kinds of mowing machines, the present season, and if it seems to be called for, we may give the result of these observations during the early part of another year. We now propose to speak of one item only. There have been various claims put forth in regard to the *draft*, but we know of only one thorough test of this matter, made by the actual application of the Dynameter, (force measurer,) to a number of machines, all worked upon the same ground and under similar circumstances. This was at Hempstead Branch, L. I., June 30, under the auspicies of the Queens County Agricultural Society. The dynameter was a new one imported from England. It is an arrangement of springs, with a dial plate to show the actual force expended, in drawing any machine, for example: at Hempstead, this instrument was placed between the "double-tree," and the mower; two of the judges walked near, as the team was driven along and continually called out the draft indicated upon the dial plate. The Secretary recorded these weights as called out, thus 300, 325, 375, 400, 350, 300, 325, 400, 325, 300, 275, 325, 375, 325, &c. After going across the field the dynameter was attached to another mower which took the next swath. The average draft was ascertained by adding together all the records and dividing them by the number. Thus in the above instance the sum of the 14 registerings is 4,700 lbs., which divided by 14 gives an average draft of 336 lbs. We describe the method thus particularly as a guide to others. It is essential to the *fairness* of a comparative trial, that each machine be tried on the same plot of grass; that the number of markings be somewhat large; that each machine cut its full width; that each cut the grass at the same hight from the ground; that the driver (and he only) ride in every case, or that no one ride; that no outsider be allowed to put a hand upon the machine to push or pull back, &c. We think it better that there be two callers and two recorders, to avoid suspicion of collusion. It is also desirable that more than a single swath be cut by each machine with the dynameter attached. Care must also be taken that the tongue of the mower play freely in the neck-yoke, and that the double-trees move freely on the tongue. A bolt head projecting up might prevent half or more of the draft from being exerted upon the register. These suggestions are made from our own observations upon the working of the Dynameter. These points were mostly attended to at the Hempstead Trial. The following table gives the result, together with the length of the cutting bar. The names are arranged alphabetically:

	Length of Cutting Bar.	No. lbs. draft.
Allen's	4 feet 8 inches	336
Burrall's	4 feet 8 inches	321
Dietz & Dunham's	4 feet 8 inches	343
Manny's	4 feet 10 inches	392
Manny's (4 wheel)	4 feet 10 inches	438
Weeks'	4 feet 8 inches	340
Whitenack's	4 feet 11 inches	388

Several expressed surprise at the smallness of the draft. It will be remembered, however, that this is the "dead weight." It by no means requires a dead pull of 2,000 lbs. to draw along a waggon loaded with a ton of hay for example. The waggon once in motion on a level road, can be kept in motion by a small weight attached to a cord over a pully and hanging perpendicularly so as to exert its full force. Or to illustrate in another way: Suppose a team attached to a rope over a pully at the mouth of a well or pit. How many hundred pounds could the team draw up? How great a weight could they hold suspended half way up the pit, for two or three hours at a time?—[Ed.

JETHRO TULL.

Who was he? And what are his claims to the reputation which he has gained? We see this name frequently in the journals, but have never met with any very definite information touching this early British cultivator. It will not be uninteresting to our readers to give a brief outline of his life and labors.

Jethro Tull, was an odd genius, and the diseases with which he was afilicted, and the farm life to which he devoted himself both tended to develop the very marked individuality of his character. Many have heard of his name, who never heard of Prosperous, the significant name by which he called his farm, or of Shalborn, the rural parish in Berkshire in which his farm was located. It is situated under the Coomb Hills, about four miles south of Hungerford, and is now a scene of pilgrimage for men, who have studied his writings and adopted his views of husbandry. We have not been able to discover the date of his birth, though judging from the time of graduation, it could not have been far from 1670. He was born in Oxfordshire, on his paternal estate. He was educated for the legal profession, became a member of Staple Inn, and was called to the bar on the 11th of December, 1693, by the benchers of Gray's Inn.

Incipient pulmonary disease interrupted his professional plans and prospects, and drove him to the more genial skies of France, and Italy. Compelled to be much in the open air for health, he observed closely the operations of husbandry in the places he visited, and returned to his home, a wiser man, if not better in physical health. Nor was this the only disease with which he had to struggle, for he says, in regard to his great work, "It is no wonder that the style is low as the author, or as the dust that is here treated of, since the whole was written in pains of the stone, and other diseases as incurable and almost as cruel; but fine language will not fill a farmer's barn."

Conceive now such a poor invalid assuming the supervision of a farm—a business that calls for constant oversight and vigorous health; conceive too that his head was full of new views of husbandry directly at variance with the system in which all the laborers he was forced to employ were drilled, and you will have some conception of the difficulty of his undertaking, and of the singular energy and perseverance of the man. It was a parody upon the fact to name the home of such an unvalid with such an undertaking before him, "Prosperous."

Whatever the result may have been, we find occasional glimpses of the state of things upon the farm, at the beginning, showing that he did not regard his position as remarkably prosperous. "It is the most formidable objection against our agriculture, that the defection of servants and laborers is such that few gentlemen can keep their lands in their own hands, but, rather than make nothing of them, they let them for a little to tenants, who can bear to be insulted, assaulted, kicked, and bridewelled, with more patience than gentlemen are endowed with." The defection of servants here mentioned is that tenacious adherence to routine for which John Bull is so famous, and which shows itself in all kinds of business and in all ranks of society.

The lands which Tull farmed consisted of about 70 acres of freehold land, and 130 which he held by another tenure. A portion of his out houses, and stables are still remaining. In clearing out an old well recently, upon the premises, a three pronged hoe was found buried in the accumulated mud of a century, which undoubtedly was one of the new fangled tools, which awakened the ire of his defective servants, and which probably was thrown into the well as a significant symbol of the treatment they would like to administer to the inventor, and his new theories. This hoe is carefully preserved in the Museum of the Royal Agricultural Society by a generation of cultivators, that appreciate Tull much better than his cotemporaries.

The tradition of his neighbors is, that he was much of the time confined to the house, but he carried on his experiments indoors by having boxes filled with prepared soil in which he could plant various seeds and test his theories. He is still spoken of by them as a man strongly set in his way, and whom it was impossible to oppose with any hope of eventual success.

He was the first English Farmer who advocated to its fullest extent, the decided advantages of constantly pulverizing and stirring the soil, to illustrate which, almost all his experiments were directed. He carried this theory so far that he denied the advantage of manure,and with unflinching consistence, ridiculed the use of vegetables grown with manure as vulgar and unsavory. He says, " It is a wonder how delicate palates can put up with eating their own and their beasts ordure, but a little more putrefied and evaporated, together will all sorts of filth and nastiness, a tincture of which those roots must unavoidably recieve, that grow among it. Indeed I do not admire, that learned palates, accustomed to the gout of Silphium, garlic, and mortified venison, equalling the stench and rankness of this sort of city muck, should relish and approve of plants that are fed and fattened by its immediate contact. Dung not only spoils the fine flavor of these our eatables, but it spoils good liquor. The dunged vineyards of Languedoc produce nauseous wines, from whence there is a proverb in that country, "that poor people's wine is best, because they carry no dung to their vineyards."

Tull undoubtedly suspected, if he did not see at a later period, that he carried this theory too far, but he would not admit it, and asserted that the office of manure was, not to furnish food directly to plants but simply to pulverize the earth and to prepare food for them.

Out of this central doctrine in his system, all his improvements grew. Admitting the advantage of thorough tillage, it became a matter of prime importance to have the crops sown in such a manner that they could be cultivated, while growing. He constructed a drill for sowing sanfoin, and other seeds. The drill system now so common in English husbandry is indebted to Tull, for its origin. All the grain crops were to be drilled, so that the horse hoe could be constantly employed between the rows.

His inventions were mainly directed to the thorough pulverization of the soil, and to its scarification during the summer. In the plows which are figured, in his Treatise on *Horse-Hoe Husbandry*, the intelligent reader will recognize many of the principles of the improved plows of our own time. He invented several varieties of hand and horse hoes.

The treatise above mentioned is his great work, and though his opinion of its merits was modest enough, there are passages in it of terse and vigorous English, that would do credit to Dean Swift, of whose style and taste the reader of the English classics will be reminded in the passages we have quoted.

Tull was a worthy example for our rural improvers, and there is no difficulty they meet with in their labors, that he did not meet and overcome. If his soil is thin and hungry so was that of Prosperous. If he lives in a desolate region, remote from market, so did Jethro Tull. If he is sick and continually thwarted in his plans by obstinate laborers he may remember that the great farmer of Shalborn, contended successfully with these difficulties. If he is laughed at as a book farmer and a fool, he may congratulate himself that the same thing happened a century and a half ago, to one whom the British public are now proud to acknowledge as a benefactor to their husbandry.--[Ed.

SOMETHING ABOUT BREATHING—RESTORING THE DROWNED OR STRANGLED, &C.

Nothing alarms one more than to see a child or a grown person, struggling to regain respiration suspended by drowning or strangling. Every one has witnessed the consternation and fright of all present when a child from any cause stops breathing for a minute or two, and its countenance begins to turn "purple." It is therefore quite desirable that all should, in their cooler moments, study the causes of strangling, its nature, and the best remedies.

Asphyxia or suspended animation is produced by sudden contraction of the glottis, that is the upper part of the trachea or "windpipe." Those who have examined the anatomy of the throat understand that the trachea lies in front, and the esophagus, or food pipe lies back of this. Food, then, in going from the mouth to the stomach, must pass directly over the top of the breathing tube. To prevent its falling into the glottis, or upper part of the windpipe, a little protector is placed there called the epiglottis, which signifies a cover upon the glottis.

Respiration or breathing, consists of *in*spiration or drawing air into the lungs, and *ex*piration or sending it out. In either inspiration or expiration, the cover or epiglottis rises like the valve of a pump. Of course the epiglottis must be closed in swallowing, and for this reason the two operations of breathing and swallowing can not go on at the same time. It is by a voluntary or involuntary attempt to do both, at once, that food sometimes gets into the glottis, and produces irritation. The air in going to or from the trachea or windpipe, passes through the mouth if that be open, if not it goes through the nasal organs or nose, the back opening of which is behind the mouth over the epiglottis at the base of the tongue.

The underside of the epiglottis is very sensitive, as is also the glottis or upper windpipe, so that any substance other than air, coming in contact with either of them produces a sudden contraction or closing, and of course suspends breathing. The substance entering is usually suddenly ejected by the natural effort of coughing, which consists of a sudden contraction of the lungs that forcibly throws out a volume of air to clear the windpipe. When medicines are forced down children,in their resisting struggles they often draw some of the medicines into the glottis, and if it be of a strong pungent nature, it will keep the organ closed for a considerable length of time, to the great alarm of all inexperienced persons. It may be a relief to such to know that there are no recorded instances of death or permanent injury from such a cause.

Suffocation, or closing of the air passage to the lungs, may be produced by several causes—by outward pressure as when a cord is drawn tightly around the neck in front; by choking, that is when a large body gets into the esophogus or meat pipe, and presses against the windpipe from behind, so as to close it; by drowning, that is the entrance of a small quantity of water into the glottis itself, so as to close it up; and by the entrance of any irritating substance which cannot be expelled by coughing. In animals, by the lodgement of hard food such as a turnip, potato, &c., the windpipe is not closed directly, as is usually supposed, but the substance remaining in the "gullet" produces inflammation and swelling, which, if continued, will in the end stop the air passage.

In the natural process of respiration or breathing, the air enters the lungs, and comes in contact with the blood through their thin coating or lining membrane. Here it gives up a portion of its oygen and becomes partially loaded with a gas called carbonic acid. This is the same gas that is produced by burning charcoal, and indeed in all cases of ordinary combustion. If this gas is retained in the lungs by a temporary closing of the external air passage, it is absorbed into the blood and goes into the system, and immediately produces poisonous effects, which will result in speedy death if the obstruction be not removed. When one breathes the impure air of a close room where an open fire or a number of lamps, or gas-lights are burning, more or less of this gas is breathed and absorbed into the system, and partial poisoning is the result. In a closely crowded school-room or church—where a number of persons are constantly emitting into the room at every breath, a considerable quantity of carbonic acid gas, with no proper facilities for its escape and the admission of fresh air from without, the atmosphere soon becomes loaded, and every one in the room feels its effect. The poison is at work upon the system, and every one knows by experience what a stupor it produces. A fall or sudden shock sometimes brings on a temporary paralysis of the whole system, and especially of the respiratory or breathing organs.

The most common cause of total suspension of respiration is from drowning or the admission of water into the top of the windpipe. As hinted above, the quantity is usually very small, since the first teaspoonful that passes the epiglottis effectually closes that organ, and prevents any further influx. The presence of the water keeps up so great a contraction that the lungs are unable to throw it out. From time immemorial it has been the common opinion that the lungs were *filled* with water, and hence the useless, *injurious* custom of rolling a drowned person over a barrel, or suspending him head downwards to *pour* out the water.

Dr. Marshall Hall, the eminent London Physiologist, has recently published the results of a series of highly valuable experiments, the substance of which we give in a condensed form. We hope every one will make themselves familiar with what follows, so as to be ready to act promptly and without confusion, in any case of emergency.

Asphyxia is the result of suspended respiration, and the proper remedy is the immediate restoration of respiration.

The supine position that is lying in the back, is an impediment to restoring the respiration artificially, because, in this position of the body, the tongue falls back upon and closes the glottis. To remedy this, place the body at once with the face downward, which will throw the tongue forward and relieve the glottis, while the pressure of the body upon the chest and abdomen will produce *ex*piration. As soon as the body is thus placed, turn it gently upon one side, which will relieve the lungs from the pressure first produced, this together with the motion will induce *in*spiration. We throw into a tabular form the directions for treating a person asphyxiated by drowning :

A. GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.

I. With all speed send for medical aid, and for hartshorn, snuff, articles of dry clothing, blankets, &c.

II. Take the patient to a spot in the open air, exposing the face and chest to the breeze, except in too cold weather.

B. TO EXCITE RESPIRATION.

III. Place the patient gently upon the face to allow any water to run from the mouth.

IV. Raise the patient to a sitting posture and endeavor to excite respiration : by snuff, hartshorn, or similar excitants applied to the nostrils ; by irrigating the throat with a feather or the finger; by dashing hot and cold water, alternately, upon the face and chest. If there be no success with these, lose no time, but

C. IMITATE RESPIRATION.

V. Replace the patient upon the face with the arms under the head ; then turn the body gradually but completely upon the *side, and a little more*, and then again upon the face, and when this is done, apply presure upon the back and ribs ; remove the pressure and again turn the body upon the side and proceed as before. Repeat these measures gently and deliberately, but effectively and permanently, sixteen times a minute only.

D. TO INDUCE CIRCULATION OF BLOOD AND WARMTH.

VI. Continuing the above measures as may be necessary, rub all the limbs and trunk *upwards*, (that is in the direction the blood flows in the veins). This rubbing is to be done with the warm hands, making firm pressure.. Replace the wet clothing by such dry covering as can be most readily procured.

We will also add, do not be readily discouraged, (remember that time seems long on such occasions,) but continue the above remedies for at least an hour by the clock. —[Ed.

Never let yourself be meanly betrayed into an admiration of a person of high rank, or fortune, whom you would despise if he were your equal in station.

A Steam Plow wanted on the Prairies.—As yet we hear of little progress towards securing that great desideratum, a steam plow. The premium of $5,000 offered by the English Royal Agricultural Society failed to bring forth a successful implement. It is now proposed to offer a still more magnificent prize in this country.

Mr. Bronson Murray, a large Illinois farmer, offers to be one of a hundred persons to raise Fifty Thousand Dollars, to be given as a premium "to the inventor of a perfected steam plow suited to farm use, and capable of performing the labor at an expense in money not greater than the average cost of performing the same work under the present system."—[Ed.

LARGE JERSEY COW CABBAGE.

BRASSICA OLERACEA, VAR. ARBORESCENS.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist :

I would be obliged if any reader of the Agriculturist, has any knowledge (from experience) of the value of the above variety of Cabbage, when grown and used in the feeding of cows and hogs—as from an article on the subject in an old Loudon's Horticultural Magazine, it is stated that a few rods or perches of land in the above plant, was found sufficient to keep several cows through the season of growing, and that they are grown extensively in the Island of Jersey and in France, where the plant will attain the height of six to eight feet. It throws out large branching leaves, which are constantly plucked as they are large enough—when others succeed them—are very fast growers and yield an immense quantity of fodder, suitable for stall feeding or soiling cows. G. D.

LOG HOUSES.

A correspondent of the Boston Journal, writing from Minnesota Territory, gives the following description of a superior style of log houses which may interest persons going West : Nothing is less attractive in appearance than an ordinary log house, the logs being tumbled together as fast as possible, and then plastered over with mud. But give to a Swede the making of a house from logs, and he turns out one which makes it very doubtful to me whether it is not really the best house that can be made of wood. The reason of such a difference is, that in their country, as they tell me, their houses of wood are never constructed in any other manner. With a few simple tools, principally the ax, they hew down the logs to a thickness of about five inches (making of them in fact, a sort of plank) and then joint, pin, and fit them together with a nicety which our best carpenters would find it hard to equal, and which makes them as impervious to wind and cold as the walls of a well caulked ship. In the way of rural architecture, this is something we do not read of, but it is nevertheless as comfortable as it is unique, and in appearance even is behind no other way of putting wood together that I have seen.

STATE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS 1856.

Name.	*Where Held.*	*Date.*
Kentucky, Ag. & Mech.	Lexington	Sept. 9—12
Vermont,	Burlington	“ 9—12
New-Jersey,	Newark	“ 10—12
Canada East,	Three Rivers	“ 16—18
Indiana	Indianapolis	“ 20—25
Ohio,	Cleveland	“ 23—26
Canada West	Kingston	“ 23—26
Am. Pomological Society	Rochester	“ 24—
Illinois	Alton	“ 30 Oct. 3
Michigan	Detroit	“ 30 “ 3
New-York	Watertown	“ 30 “ 3
Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	“ 30 “ 3
Kentucky	Paris	“ 30 “ 4
California	San Jose	Oct. 7—10
Connecticut	New-Haven	“ 7—10
National Ag. Show	Philadelphia	“ 7—10
North Kentucky	Florence	“ 7—11
Wisconsin	Milwaukie	“ 8—10
Iowa	Muscatine	“ 8—10
New-Hampshire	Concord	“ 8—10
North Carolina	Raleigh	“ 14—17
Georgia	Atalanta	“ 20—23
Maryland	Baltimore	“ 21—24
Maine	Portland	“ 28—30
Virginia,	Richmond	Oct. 28—Nov. 1
Alabama	Montgomery	Nov. 11—14
South Carolina	Columbia	“ 11—14

COUNTY SHOWS FOR 1856.

NEW-YORK.

Madison,	Morrisville	Sept. 8—10
Onondaga,	Syracuse	“ 10—12
Rensselaer,	Lansingburg	“ 16—18
Jefferson,	Watertown	“ 17—18
Oswego,	Mexico	“ 17—18
Cayuga,	——	“ 17—19
Cattaraugus,	Little Valley	“ 17—19
Washington,	Union Village	“ 17—18
Essex,	Elizabethtown	“ 18—19
St. Lawrence,	Canton	“ 18—19
Albany,	Albany	“ 23—25
Wayne,	Lyons	“ 23—25
Oneida,	Rome	“ 23—25
Tioga,	Owego	“ 24—25
Delaware,	Walton	“ 24—25
Franklin,	Malone	“ 24—26
Monroe,	Rochester	“ 24—26
Ontario,	Canandaigua	“ 24—26
Queens,	Hempstead	“ 25—
Orleans,	Albion	“ 25—26
Rockland,	New-City	Oct. 8— 9
Schuyler,	Watkins	“ 8— 9
Seneca,	Waterloo	“ 8—10

OHIO.

Hamilton,	Carthage	Sept. 9—12
Brown,	Georgetown	“ 9—12
Trumbull,	Warren	“ 10—12
Geauga,	Burton	“ 10—12
Conneaut,	Conneaut	“ 11—12
Medina,	Medina	“ 15—17
Meigs,	Pomeroy	“ 16—17
Clermont,	Olive Branch	“ 16—19
Ashtabula,	Jefferson	“ 17—18
Portage,	Ravenna	“ 17—18
Geauga, (Independent)	Claridon	“ 17—19
Butler,	Hamilton	“ 17—19
Knox,	Mount Vernon	“ 18—19
Lawrence,	Ironton	“ 18—19
Hardin,	Kenton	“ 23—25
Monroe,	Woodsfield	“ 26—27
Putnam,	Kalida	Oct. 1— 2
Miami,	Troy	“ 1— 3
Jefferson,	Steubenville	“ 1— 3
Huron,	Olena	“ 1— 3
Belmont,	St. Clairsville	“ 1— 3
Drake,	Greenville	“ 1— 3
Sandusky,	Fremont	“ 1— 3
Muskingum,	Zanesville	“ 1— 3
Delaware,	Delaware	“ 1— 3
Richland,	Mansfield	“ 1— 3
Erie,	Huron	“ 1— 3
Clark,	Springfield	“ 1— 3
Lake,	Painesville	“ 1— 3
Morgan,	McConnellsville	“ 1— 3
Greene,	Xenia	“ 1— 3
Stark,	Massillon	“ 1— 3
Holmes,	Millersburg	“ 2— 3
Cuyahoga,	Cleveland	“ 7— 9
Mahoning,	Canfield	“ 7— 9
Warren,	Lebanon	“ 7— 9
Montgomery,	Dayton	“ 7— 9
Licking,	Newark	“ 8— 9
Ottaway,	Port Clinton	“ 8— 9
Harrison,	Cadiz	“ 8—10
Preble,	Eaton	“ 8—10
Summit,	Akron	“ 8—10
Loraine,	Elyria	“ 8—10
Champagne,	Urbana	“ 8—10
Washington,	Marietta	“ 8—10
Guernsey,	Cambridge	“ 9—10
Hancock,	Finley	“ 9—10
Columbiana,	New Lisbon	“ 9—11
Morrow,	Mount Gilead	“ 9—11
Clinton,	Wilmington	“ 10—11
Logan,	Bellefontaino	“ 14—16
Pickaway,	Circleville	“ 15—17
Noble,	Sarahsville	“ 16—18
Tuscarawas,	Canal Dover	“ 16—18
Seneca,	Tiffin	“ 22—24
Carroll,	Carrollton	“ 28—30

CONNECTICUT.

Fairfield,	Norwalk	Sept. 23—26

NEW-JERSEY

Mercer	Hightstown	Sept. 17—18
Salem,	Salem	“ 18
Monmouth,	Freehold	“ 24—25
Burlington,	Mount Holly	Sept. 30—Oct. 1
Cumberland,	Bridgeton	Oct. 1—
Somerset,	Somerville	“ 1— 2

WHEAT AND OATS IN WISCONSIN NOT EXCELLED BY OHIO OR OTHER TES

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

After reading some remarks in the American Agriculturist, on wheat growing in New-Jersey, where 70 square rods of ground, well manured and well cultivated, produced some ten bushels of good wheat, and your remarks on "Do our Eastern Farmers Better their condition by removing to the West," I conclude to send you a note of how we grow wheat and oats in Wisconsin.

Mr. Logan Graves, my neighbor, a man of undoubted veracity, informed me that, in June, 1854, he "broke" or turned over some ten acres of native prairie, on which he sowed Club wheat in the Spring of 1855, with no other preparation but thorough harrowing. The result was, that he harvested some fifty-one bushels of good wheat per acre. I saw it growing and have no doubt of the truth of the statement.

Another of my neighbors, Mr. G. W. Bly, harvested a crop of oats some four or five acres in 1854, that yielded ninety three bushels per acre, with once plowing, and without manure of any kind. Mr. Bly, is said to be strictly honest and may be relied upon, as a man of truth. This, Sir, will be hard for you to believe, but none the less true however.

Of Ohio, you say, it is and ever will be the richest. It has a greater supply of good land, &c. In this, I think you are mistaken, having resided some forty years in that State, I have some knowledge of it, as well as of Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. * * * N. Wirt.

Chester, Dodge Co., Wisconsin.

Remarks.—We are pleased to know that our correspondent is gratified with his new Wisconsin home, and that such extraordinary instances of cropping have been witnessed, as he states. We have heard tell of sundry like feats in almost every Northern State, Rhode Island scarcely excepted. But will Mr. Wirt say that the above crops—51 bushels of Spring Wheat, and 93 bushels of Oats, with *once* plowing, and no manure, are the rule and not the exception, in Wisconsin? These extraordinary *chance* crops are no data for average cultivation. Wisconsin is a fine State, like Iowa, and all the Great West. We have said nothing—we intend to say nothing to the prejudice of that broad and truly beautiful country. In our late remarks touching the expediency of Eastern farmers migrating to the West, we intended to state the case fairly. We have done so, and given them good advice, which we believe the sound judgment of the majority will approve. We have not sought to stop emigration, but only propose that when farmers do emigrate, they shall do it understandingly. We have nothing further to say in relation to Ohio, or its superiority over other Western States. Our remarks must be taken in this broad construction, and we do not care to reiterate them, or make further qualification now. All the Western States are good enough; and if their inhabitants will only work, and behave themselves, they will reach and enjoy all of earthly happiness that poor fallen humanity ought to expect.—[Ed.

TIM BUNKER ON MOSS BUNKERS.

Hookertown has been thrown into quite a ferment lately, by the arrival of numerous loads of fish from the shore, for the purpose of manure. The muck heaps are in a ferment with the fish, and the people with the talk about them. As in all new enterprizes there is a great difference of opinion, and almost every man is as decided in his views as if he had used moss bunkers from his boyhood. Some declare that the fish cannot be used without making an odor, more distinguished than all the spice groves of the tropics, and that the man ought to be prosecuted, who will put moss bunkers on any field within a mile of the road. Others think the fish are good for nothing after they are put upon the land. There is nothing like the good old stuff right out of the barnyard. But the majority are bound to try the article, as they agreed last winter to take, some fifty thousand, some sixty, and some a hundred thousand. They live too far from the shore to apply them fresh to the growing crops, and they are almost without exception putting them into heaps and covering them with muck and peat. As this latter article is abundant, they use five or six cords of it to one of the fish.

Tim Bunker very early consulted Deacon Smith, and the back numbers of the Agriculturist, and after thinking the whole matter over a few days, he came to the conclusion that he should go in for fifty thousand of the fish, and run the risk of it. The very first load of the article he brought through the street, he was hailed by Mr. Jotham Sparrowgrass, the uncle of Jeremiah, of bird-killing memory. Jotham was wise in the ways of the fathers, and knew all about fish, for he had lived over on Long Island, when he was a boy.

"Well, Squire Bunker, I spose you think you are going to do a nice thing with them 'ere fish, but let me tell you, that you don't know everything if you do take the papers. Fish pizens land. I've seen it tried time and agin, and I never knew it to fail."

"How do you know that Jotham?"

"Why you see, sir, that 'ere paper is filling your head full of foolish notions. When I was a boy my father and all his neighbors used to use fish: John Woodhull, Tom Tuttle, Ben Miller, and a lot more. They got mighty great crops for a few years, and then the land got to be so poor that fish didn't produce no more effect upon it than so much sand. They came to the conclusion that fish pizened the sile, and I never have thought much of fish since."

"Well, Jotham, can you tell me if they used anything else beside fish for manure?"

"No they did not. You see fish was so plenty in Peconic Bay, all along the shores of Southold, that they thought it was of no use to cart dirt into their yards."

"Well, that was the trouble with them, Jotham, and the reason that the land run to sorrel and moss. Deacon Smith has studied into this matter a little more than I have, and the deacon says that if we only use muck with fish, or if we turn in green crops occasionally, the land will grow better all the while, and produce great crops. He says the fish stimulate the land to produce great crops of corn, oats, hay, &c., and immense quantities of carbonaceous matter are carried off, and the soil is soon exhausted, unless we put back the carbon in some way."

"I don't believe a word about your carbonates, Tim Bunker, and the other stuff you and the Deacon get out of the papers. I tell you fish will pizen the land, and Hookertown will be a desert in less than five years, if you keep carting these stinking fish into town."

"But if fish spoil the land, Uncle Jotham, why do they keep using them on the island. One town over there last year raised twenty thousand bushels of wheat and corn, rye and oats in great quantities, and it was just where they use the fish in greatest abundance."

"I don't believe a word on't. That wheat crop, you see, was grow'd on paper. You can't raise wheat in this part of the country. The sile is too old."

"Well, Uncle Jotham, I see you are dead set agin the fish. But I have made up my mind to try them, and I think I shall show you that they won't spoil the land."

Timothy Bunker, Esq., touched up his span and ended the conference; while Uncle Jotham struck his cane upon the ground with great emphasis and tugged off, muttering as he went, "Who would have thought it, Tim Bunker using bony fish. It's no use, they pizen the sile."—[Ed.

Hair Oil for Horses.—Immense fortunes have been realized in the manufacture of *Hair Oil* for the *Lords* and *Ladies* of creation. But here is a recipe for the manufacture of *hair oil*, said to be successful in promoting the growth of *horse hair*—rendering it *pliable* and *glossy*. We give the technical formulæ of the prescription:

R.—Take

Brushus et curricomus	ad-libitum.
Elbow greesus	qantum suff.
Blanketisus	firstratus.
Stablus	warmus.
Fodderus	never say diet-us, but meal us et oatus.
Exercisus	non compromisus.

The effect of the above is truly wonderful. It results in—

Coatus shinitus.
Apetitus, wolfitus.
Muscularitus, two-forty-itus.
Horse Latinus.

—Amer. Vet. Jour.

Hay, Cotton, and Tobacco Presses.—Those who have inquired of us from time to time in regard to these implements, will find something on the subject in the Advertising Columns.—[Ed.

The matter of the Agriculturist is nearly all ORIGINAL.

THE GROWING CORN—A LESSON.

Recent letters upon the state of the growing crops have been received from nearly every section of the Northern States, from Maine to Iowa. We have been not a little surprised, on taking up one after another of these letters, to find nine out of ten of them giving substantially this statement: "Our corn crop is very backward, the first planting having failed to come up, and, in many cases, a third or forth planting was necessary in order to secure a stand."

Various reasons are suggested to account for this failure, "grub worm," "wire worm," &c., but most of our correspondents attribute it to defective seed. They say the crop was put up, last fall, before the cob was fully dry, and the consequent heating destroyed the germ. This theory is plausible, and might at once be adopted in every case, but from the fact that seed from the same bin has sometimes grown at a second planting. Numerous instances are given, however, where one part of a field has come up and another failed, and a subsequent examination has traced the seed on the two portions to different sources. So also in at least two instances, experiments have been made at the second planting, a part of the seed being taken from the outside of a bin and the other part from the middle, and the latter has failed while the former has germinated well.

Several intelligent farmers write positively, like Mr. Bingham of Ohio, who says: "This much you may put down as certain—every farmer hereabouts who selected his seed from the field last fall, and tied it up by the husks in the old-fashioned way, has secured a good sprouting at the first planting this spring." Let the lesson now being learned be remembered, at least until next Fall, when the present crop ripens; and at that time let each one select not only sound ears of corn, but those well filled out and well ripened, and take good care to have the corn designed for seed well dried before storing away. If this is done, we shall probably not have such complaints another season as we now hear from every quarter. —[Ed.

TRAPPING HOUSE ANTS.

A lady enquires how she can drive away or destroy these pests. We know of no better method than the one we gave in the American Agriculturist some time since, which is essentially as follows:

Take a large sponge and wash it well and after it is dry lay it near any spot frequented by the ants, and sprinkle fine white sugar over it. In a short time the meshes will be nearly filled with the minute insects, which can then be destroyed by dipping the sponge in hot water, and after washing and drying, it may be replaced again. Thousands are often destroyed at a time, and by repeating the process the locality will soon be freed from them.

Drowning 'em out.—One of the most effectual methods we can suggest for keeping food from the reach of ants, is to put a little water into a platter and set the articles into it. Those which will not bear wetting may be placed upon a dish inverted in the water. Our artist has prepared the following cut to illustrate the subject:

The small "specks" are supposed to be diminutive ants. Get out your magnifying glass if you want to see their heads, eyes, and limbs. As will be observed, the ants are not good swimmers, and they are hesitating about "plunging into the Rubicon," that separates them from the coveted kingdom.

If neither of the above plans will help our fair inquirer, we don't know what will.—[Ed.

SOW TURNIPS STILL.

It is not too late. Many a good crop has been raised from seed sown after the middle of August, and even into September, though the sooner now the better. Read what is said of this subject in the July number, and then hunt up the "bare spots" if it is not already well done. Every body will feel better with ten, fifty, a hundred, or five hundred bushels of turnips to put away for winter, than they will without them, while the cost of raising is very small. There is plenty of room for them between the rows of corn and potatoes. They may as well grow there as a crop of weeds, and the seed is hardly worth reckoning. A correspondent of the Genesee Farmer makes the following suggestions:—

Turnips can be raised on almost every variety of soil—the best being new land, black muck, loam and sand. I used to think they would not grow well on old land, but experience has taught me better.

They may be sown from the first of July to the fifteenth of August, and after early potatoes, wheat, barley, or oats, and peas. I have succeeded well sowing as above mentioned. If sown on old land, after other crops, it should be in a good state of cultivation or a large crop cannot be expected. I think the very best time to sow is from the 20th of July to the fifth of August. If sown after grain, the ground should be plowed and thoroughly harrowed as soon as the grain is harvested, to let the grain and weeds have a chance to grow. After a few days cultivate thoroughly, to pulverize the soil and kill the weeds, and the ground is ready for the seed, which may be sown broadcast and harrowed in. If the ground is very dry it should be rolled. After the plants have attained a sufficient size they should be thinned and hoed once, and that will complete the work until harvest. If the ground is clean and not too thickly sown, a good crop can be raised without hoeing. The best variety is the early white stubble, sown at the rate of two lbs. per acre.

The cost of raising a good crop will not exceed two cents per bushel. I have sold them as low as eight dollars a hundred bushels, and made a good profit. The tops make good feed for cows and young cattle, which are very fond of them, and may be kept till hard freezing weather if left in small heaps, to prevent them from heating. I know of no better way of harvesting than to pull them and lay in rows with the tops all one way, and top them with a knife.

EDITOR'S FARM NOTES,

OR GLEANINGS AMONG PRACTICAL MEN.

Huntington, L. I.—Thursday, July 10th, we visited "Hillside farm," owned by Mr. George T. Hammond, situated in what is termed "Pleasant Valley," six miles from Huntington village, and two and a half miles north from Conklin's Turnout, L. I. Railroad. It contains 106 acres—52 acres under culture, and 54 acres of woodland. The surface soil is a sandy loam, the subsoil in some places clay and in others sand or gravel.

Potatoes.—A plot of 1¼ acres was planted May 1st, with 25 bushels of uncut Mercer Potatoes. The seed was selected from the largest and soundest potatoes grown in a lot of four acres last year. One-fourth of an acre of this plot received ten two-horse wagon loads of hog manure, spread broadcast and plowed in, ten inches deep, last Fall; the remaining acre, a rye stubble, was plowed the first of April, and the last of that month the whole was plowed again, and harrowed until well pulverized, and the unmanured acre sown with 450 lbs. Peruvian guano. The whole was again plowed five inches deep and harrowed, marked out in rows, 2½ feet apart, with a double-mould-board plow, and the potatoes dropped eighteen inches apart in the rows. A small handful of Poudrette was added to each hill, which required four barrels to the acre; the rows were then closed with the double-mould-board plow.

As soon as the vines could be seen, the ground was harrowed with a bush harrow. The 10th of June they were all up, when the plow was passed through them, followed by hand-hoes, soon after which they commenced blossoming. Some of them are still in blossom and the crop promises well. Mr. H. thinks it injures potatoes to hoe them while in blossom, and says his method has been when weeds appear after this stage of the plant to pull them by hand.

Oats.—Six and a half acres of oats were sown as follows: the land was first well plowed six inches deep, and harrowed over twice; four acres were sown with poudrette at the rate of 380 lbs. per acre; one-and-a-half acres with 200 lbs. Peruvian guano per acre; and two acres with 200 lbs. Ichaboe guano per acre. Two bushels of seed per acre were sown immediately after the manure, and both harrowed in together, and the ground rolled, which left a level but well-pulverized surface. The portion treated to Peruvian guano is probably ten days ahead of the oats on the poudrette portion, and has a darker green color, and a more luxuriant growth. The effect of the Ichaboe guano is similar to that of the Peruvian, though far less marked. What advantage may result from the use of Poudrette we are unable to estimate, as no portion was left unmanured, as should always be when experiments of this kind are made.

Indian Corn.—There are two fields of this. One contains four acres, on which potatoes were grown last year. They were manured with twenty two-horse loads of yard manure to the acre, plowed in, and 150 lbs. Peruvian guano sowed in the drills. The land was plowed eight inches deep, well harrowed and rolled, after which the corn was planted on the 14th of May, in hills four feet apart. The only manure applied was two barrels of poudrette per acre, which allows a handful to each hill. As soon as the rows could be fairly seen the plow was used, followed by the cultivator in about a week after. It was then hoed, applying to each hill and mixing well with the soil as much Ta-feu as could be held between the thumb and two fingers, since which the cultivator has been used freely as often as necessary. The other corn lot, containing five acres, was an old meadow. This was planted the 21st of May, and manured in the hill at the rate of six loads of stable manure per acre. The after cultivation has been the same as that of the other field. This lot looks rather backward, but with good weather it will come in well. It has been much damaged by ground moles, but their ravages have now ceased.

Mr. H. has used Peruvian guano on his grass lands with advantage, but thinks its effects cannot be depended upon to last over one year, though in some instances he has perceived an increase of the crops for two years. He thinks it is an important help to the farmer when used with discretion, but that it should not be used on the same field two years in succession. This may be the case on a light soil, but we believe it may be profitably applied in small quantities every year upon clay or heavy loam We saw two meadows of Timothy grass, still standing,—on one of these the effects of Peruvian guano, sown last year, are still very perceptible.

A peach orchard was planted last year on a poor lot, containing two acres of side hill land. Owing to the severe cold weather many of them were killed last Winter, but they were mostly replaced in the Spring. The varieties of peaches used were those which have been found to succeed best on Long Island in the neighborhood of this farm. They were all procured budded with the following varieties: Smock's, Crawford's, Early and Late, Old-Mixon, Honest Johns, and Stump of the World. This orchard was planted with white beans on the 12th of June. They were put in drills thirty inches asunder, and about three inches apart in the drill, and manured with poudrette of domestic manufacture. They show well at this date.

A small plot, four square rods, was planted, May 23d, with long orange carrots. This was plowed the previous Autumn, and a heavy dressing of yard manure turned under. It was again well plowed this Spring, before planting. The seed was first soaked in lukewarm water forty-eight hours, and then mixed with about double its bulk of gypsum before sowing. The rows were made two feet apart, which is found to be rather close for field culture, as it allows too little room for the use of the horse-hoe.

Half an acre, adjoining the carrots, plowed and manured last Fall with yard manure, was yet to be planted with Turnips for family use. Part of an old field of 2½ acres was plowed in and harrowed in April for Ruta Bagas. It has just been replowed, harrowed, rolled, and sown with 275 lbs. Peruvian guano per acre, thoroughly incorporated with the soil by the use of the cultivator, and then laid out in drills thirty inches apart, and one pound of seed per acre planted.

A light one-horse subsoil plow is used between the potatoes and corn rows after the last hoeing. This is a valuable implement, especially on those portions of the farm containing a clay subsoil.

We were informed by Mr. H. that since the purchace of this farm four years ago the gross products have more than doubled.

A Long Island Peach Orchard.—We visited the farm of Messrs. Hawley, Smith & Carman, whose peaches are becoming pretty well known in this market. This is half a mile south of the farm above noticed, and now contains 126 acres of peach orchard all in bearing. In 1845 Mr. Carman leased an old field containing forty acres which had not been under cultivation for fifty years, the soil having been left in a very reduced state previous to that date. It was partly covered with a young growth of cedars, which were removed. It was plowed to an ordinary depth, and the trees set out eighteen feet apart each way. No special care was taken in planting them, and the only manure used a double handful of old compost to each tree.

Mr. C. met with many discouragements in this new undertaking. Peach trees had been but little cultivated on this part of the Island, and it was looked upon as a foolish outlay of time and money. The trees were obtained from New Jersey, and consisted of Crawfords, Late and Early, Smocks, Oldmixons, Honest Johns, and a variety called the late Heath Freestone. The Smocks have proved to be by far the most profitable. The early and late Crawfords have done well; and the Old-mixons pretty well. The Honest Johns have been less profitable, and the Late Heath nearly valueless.

In five years the crop raised from this orchard sold for $3,300, since which time it has borne well up to last year, when it began to fail. In 1846 Messrs. H., S. & C., convinced that their project would prove a profitable one, hired a farm, adjoining their first peach orchard, for a term of years, and commenced operations on a still larger scale. During the three succeeding years they planted an orchard of 70 acres; the trees consisted entirely of early and late Crawfords, Old-mixons, Honest Johns, and Morris Whites. The land of this second orchard was similar to that of the first, and the same course of treatment was pursued with the exception that no manure whatever was used. In 1850 the first good crop was obtained, since which time it has increased in productiveness, and is now in its prime.

Mr. C. says no manure is necessary when the tree is first planted, but that their method has been to sow bone dust or guano, and put in buckwheat every season until the trees get too large to permit the growth of grain, after which the land is kept as loose as possible and the weeds kept down by the frequent use of the plow and cultivator. The profits realized from the sale of grain have paid all expenses of setting out and care of the trees.

Very little attention is given to shaping the trees. The suckers are kept down and an occasional hoeing around the roots is attended with good results.

A third orchard consisting of sixteen acres was leased and set out in 1850. The varieties of fruit were Smocks and Early and Late Crawfords. These yielded in 1855, 2,500 baskets. Last year the gross sales of all the orchards amounted to seven thousand dollars. Encouraged by the results of ten years experience, the company bought the farm of Mr. Chichester in 1855. They have added pear growing to their peach business. The present season they put out 680 dwarf pear trees, imported from France, from which they expect a moderate crop next year, as several of the trees have fruit upon them at the present time. Their selection consists of the following varieties: Bartlett, White Doyenne, Beurre Bosc, Urbaniste, Duchess d'Angouleme, Louise Bonne de Jersey, Beurre Diel, Winter Nelis, and Vicar of Winkfield. These are chosen in part with a view of having a succession.

The trees are set out eight feet apart each way,—the 680 just occupying an acre. The ground was prepared by plowing ten inches deep, and subsoiling four inches deeper. The spaces between the trees are occupied with potatoes, which were heavily manured. The soil is kept loose and entirely free from weeds by frequent hoeing.

We should add that from past experience Messrs. H., S. & C. have found the following varieties of Peaches the most valuable, and have put only these in their nursery of young trees: Smock's, Crawford's Early and Late, Stump of the World, Old-Mixon, Honest John, and Morris White. Those who wish to see the quality of the fruit they raise can do so at the proper season by calling at their fruit depository, near Fulton Ferry.—[Ed.

Buckwheat with Corn.—Mr. Norman Felt, of Madison Co., N. Y., informs us that last year on the 10th day of July, he sowed a bushel of buckwheat seed in a corn field of four acres, scattering the seed where the corn had been destroyed by the cut worm. After this was done, the cultivator was run through the corn, and it received its last hoeing. About one-third of the ground received the buckwheat seed.

When the corn ripened, early in September, it was cut up and removed from the spots where the buckwheat was growing. On the last of September the buckwheat was harvested, and from the one bushel of seed thus sown, sixty-two bushels of first-rate grain were gathered. The entire cost of cultivation, up to the time of cutting, he estimates at $1, the cost of the bushel of seed, as the cultivating and hoeing of the corn was required at any rate.—[Ed.

BARN CELLARS.

Editor American Agriculturist :

I am glad to see that farmers are beginning to appreciate the importance of having a cellar for manure under their barns; for in journeying through the country I frequently find them raising their barns several feet from the original foundations, and excavating the earth beneath to make not only a covert for stock, but also a place for the protection and manufacture of manure. I am glad to see this very important reformation taking place, for the loss in allowing manures to remain exposed to the parching sun and drenching rains is almost incalculable. As manure is indispensable to the raising of good crops throughout the east, and must soon be beneficial to the now fertile vallies and prairies of the west, it should be the study and aim of every farmer carefully to preserve it, without permitting its fertilizing properties to escape.

I know of no means by which this can be accomplished better than by a well constructed Barn Cellar, which should be one of the indispensable appurtenances of a well regulated farm, and I hold it a duty of those who have tried the experiment, and whose loaded granaries attest to its value, to urge upon their brother farmers the construction of these cellars, until it would be as strange to find them erecting houses without cellars, as barns.

Farmers are annually expending large sums of money in the purchase of Guano and patent manures, which may possibly answer, if their farms are located adjacent to our large cities, where products find a ready market at good prices, and the expense of transportation is a trifle, with no natural facilities for making manure at home. But back in the country, where on nearly every farm may be found a swale filled with muck, or any quantity of loam may be taken from the road-side without price, the farmer will find that instead of purchasing patent or artificial manures, it will be decidedly to his advantage to construct a barn cellar, and manufacture his own compost.

The liquid portion of manure made by a stock of cattle, if properly saved, is nearly equal to the solid excrement; but the former is mostly lost without a cellar, while with one it can all be saved.

Scuttles should be constructed in the floor through which the liquid will pass, and the solid should be thrown to the cellar beneath, where a good supply of loam and muck should at all times be kept to absorb the fluid. A goodly number of swine should always be kept in the cellar, as co-workers with the farmer in the mixing process. Manure of an excellent quality may in this way be manufactured in abundance, and at a small cost after the cellar is once constructed.

I consider muck far superior to loam, and it should be dug from the pit in the summer or fall, when there is little water to trouble. Muck requires exposure to the action of the frost one winter before it is used, which can be done by throwing it in ridges directly from the pit or swamp, and carting it to the cellar at any leisure time during the spring, summer, or autumn.

The cellar should be so constructed that it will not freeze, thus allowing the mixing to be done during the winter.

James Fellows.

Concord, N. H.

SILVERING FLUIDS AND POWDERS, BAD AND GOOD—IMPORTANT CAUTION.

Persons can not be too cautious in the purchase, and especially in the use of certain articles sold about the country, as "silvering fluids," and "silvering powders." We have examined a large number of these in the laboratory, and *have never yet found a particle of silver* in any one of them. On the contrary they contain mercury (quick-silver), and their inevitable effect will be in the end to injure the surface of any metal to which they are applied. A little mercury beat into whiting or clay, disappears, but when this mixture is rubbed upon brass or copper, the mercury adheres to the surface, and the rubbing gives it a brilliant silver-like appearance which most persons would mistake for silver itself. But this bright surface soon tarnishes, and what is worse, the mercury eats into or dissolves the metal upon which it is placed, greatly injuring it. A few coatings applied upon a silver teaspoon, for example, will so combine with the silver as to render it almost as brittle as a pipe stem.

The article most commonly sold by pedlers at street corners, at agricultural exhibitions and at other public gatherings, is a solution of mercury in nitric acid (aqua fortis). A drop of this liquid put upon copper, brass and other metallic surfaces, at once deposites the silver-like mercury, and it will instantly brighten up silver ware, but the brightness is temporary, and the ultimate result very injurious. We repeat then, never purchase, at least never use any of these silver powders or solutions upon any article of value.

We offered a similar precaution some years ago, and have repeated it once or twice since, but we still find the venders of these humbug preparations are extensively patronized, and therefore, repeat the caution.

A genuine silvering fluid may be made, though we have never seen one on sale, probably because the preparation is expensive, and the mercurial solution sells quite as readily to the ignorant unwary crowd. We give a recipe for the genuine article :

Dissolve some silver, a piece of coin for example, in double its weight of strong nitric acid. Take a piece of cyanide of potassium about ten times the weight of the silver employed, and dissolve it in clean rain water, say 1 pint of water to 1½ ounces of the cyanide of potassium. Then mix the silver and the cyanide solutions together. To the fluid thus formed add a quantity of fine whiting, say double the weight of the silver. Stir this in well, and the silvering solution is complete. It should be remembered that all these operations are to be performed in glass or well glazed earthen vessels, and the liquid should be kept in glass-stoppered bottles. To use this preparation, on a brass door knob or candlestick for example, shake it up well and rub it on with a piece of cotton. Two or more applications may be necessary. The surface is to be polished with dry whiting which is finally removed, and the article washed with clean water and dried off with a dry cloth. Any expert druggist can easily make such a preparation.—[Ed.

KEEPING RECORDS, IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.

The following is the closing part of a letter, giving an account of crops, &c.—[Ed.

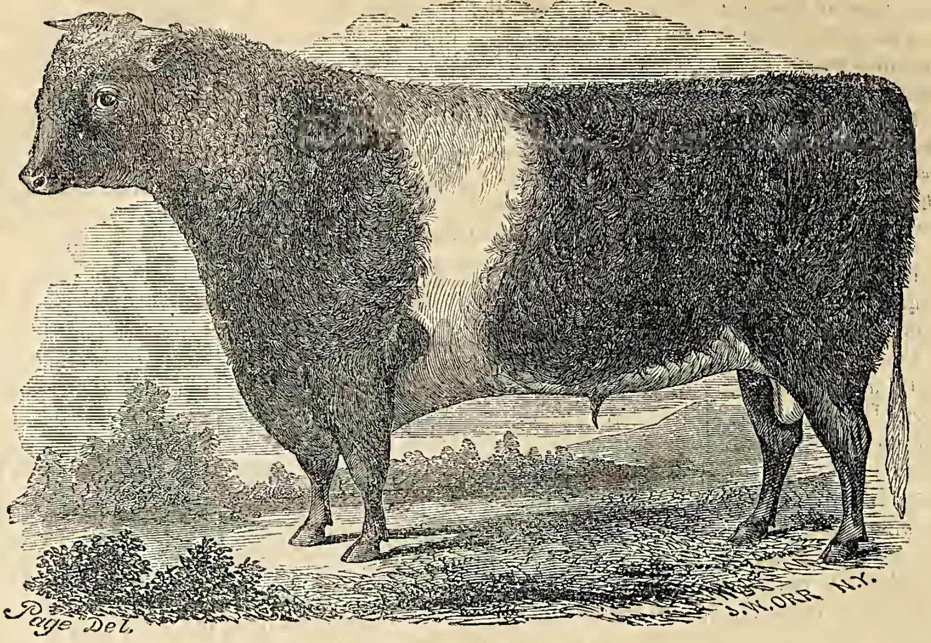
Permit me to fill out my sheet by making a suggestion relative to farming operations. Every farmer should keep a register or Journal made up daily, or at least weekly. It should contain the process adopted in the culture of his crops, such as the character of the soil selected for any particular crop, mode of manuring or fertilizing, the state of plowing, planting, sowing, the kind and quantity of seed per acre, the time of harvesting, and the quantity raised on any given area, together with the daily state of the weather, rainy, cloudy, fair, warm or cold, with the direction of the wind, with the first appearance and duration, and effect of destructive insects to crops, with any mode that might be adopted to prevent their ravages.

Such a journal to refer to, would be to the farmer, what the compass is to the mariner. He would then know without relying on treacherous memory, all favorable results, and the causes that produced them. He could also see all the failures and mistakes, and would be likely to ascertain wherein success did not attend his efforts. If much of the success of the farmer is derived from experience, let me ask what is experience? It is knowing precisely the past management, in connection with *every thing* that had an influence upon results, and profiting thereby. Can he retain all this in his memory? certainly not. The very causes mainly productive of the results, might not be retained; while other matters, having little or nothing to do with it might be, and operate as a guide for the future, leading in a wrong direction. Ask many farmers at the close of the year, how much they have made. They can tell nothing about it. They do not know whether they are advancing or retrograding. But ask him who keeps a journal, and notes down all his operations, and he can tell you whether he can afford to purchase his wife a new carpet, or send one of his daughters to a Seminary.

C. B. Rising.

"Mike," asked a man who was watching this sportsman's movements, "why don't you fire at those ducks—don't you see you have got the whole flock before your gun?"

"I know I have, but when I get a good aim at one, two or three others will swim right up between it and me."


Page Del.
J.W.ORR N.Y.

LORD VANE TEMPEST 2D.

Calved June 7th, 1853. Bred by J. C. Jackson, Newtown, Long Island. The property of the Brothers B. & C. S. Haines, Elizabeth, N. J. Sire, imported Lord Vane Tempest (10,469).—Dam, Nymph 2d, by 3d Duke of Cambridge, (5,941).—G. d., Nymph, by Bertram 2d, (3,144).—Gr. g. d., Nannette, by Patriot, (2,412).—Gr. gr. g. d., Nonpareil, by Young Denton, (963).—Gr. gr. gr. g. d., Arabella, by North Star, (460).—Gr. gr. gr. gr. g. d., Aurora, by Comet, (155).—Gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. g. d., ——, by Henry, (301).—Gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. gr. g. d., ——, by Danby, (190).

SALTING HAY AND SALTING STOCK.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

A goodly proportion of the clover and grasses intended to be made into hay is already cut, cured, and stored away in stacks or barns. But there will be some second cuttings, and probably some late cuttings on meadows which have been depastured in the Spring, and for the benefit of those who have yet some hay to make during the present season, as well as hereafter, and cattle, sheep, &c., to salt every season and every week of their lives, I wish to submit a few suggestions which, I trust, may promote at once the comfort of many dumb animals, and the pecuniary interests of those who own them, and to whom Providence has committed the charge of their health and comfort.

I have been both surprised and sorry during the haying season of this year, as also in previous years, to find the practice pretty general of throwing from one to four quarts of salt on every load of hay after unloading it in barn or on stack. This is generally done at the close of unloading, so that one layer of the hay must be "grievously" salt while the bulk of it remains untouched by salt. The inevitable consequence of this will be that the animals to which the hay is fed will get every now and then during the Winter far more salt than they would naturally like, and far more than the system requires. This overdosing with salt will produce a thirst which cannot *in Winter* be easily allayed, or which may produce scouring and other uncomfortable and injurious consequences. In a word, both the comfort, and the health of the animals fed on hay thus mismanaged must be sacrificed.

During the Winter months stock generally take much less salt, when they have free access to it, than they do in the Summer, sheep, perhaps, excepted. I have known eight quarts of salt recommended to be put upon each ton of hay, and as much actually put on, and this amount, I am very sure, is a great deal more than a cow or ox would use, of its own free will, during the time occupied in eating up that quantity of hay.

If the salt put upon hay were sprinkled very carefully and *evenly* all through it, by having some one to throw about a teaspoonful or two on every forkful as put away in mow or stack, one portion of the objectionableness of the practice would be obviated. Still even then there would remain objections sufficient to condemn the practice, especially when a much more excellent way of salting stock may be easily adopted. This better way is to have a box or trough containing salt, or a mixture of salt, ashes, charcoal and a little sulphur, so covered up as to be safe from ordinary storms of rain or snow. This is the only way in which our domestic animals can get just as much salt as the system requires, and no more. If hay is salted, even in the most even way, the animals consuming it will get either more or less than the healthy demands of the system require. This much *reason* teaches, and it has been confirmed by *experience.*

Within a few years I have seen in the agricultural papers testimony in regard to the superiority of the latter practice over that, formerly adopted, of salting hay. Such testimony I have seen both from dairy and sheep farmers. The amount of this testimony is, that cattle and sheep have done better by having free access to salt than they formerly did on salted hay, and that this way of supplying salt is much better, for the thrift of all kinds of stock during the Summer, than the very common practice of salting them once a week.

With these convictions in regard to this matter, based upon testimony given both by reason and by experience, I cannot but utter a word of protest, or of caution at least, against the practice of salting hay, and against recommendations such as I have lately seen in journals of some reputation and authority. To advise farmers to salt their hay, and by no means to neglect it; to tell them that this will increase the value of the hay many times the cost of the salt, and that stock will be benefited thereby, is giving sanction to a wrong practice. There is, at least, a much better way. T——s.

Remarks.—We give the views of T——s at length, but must differ with him somewhat. We have heretofore cautioned haymakers against a *careless* use of salt—against compelling animals to eat a large amount *nolens volens,* (willing or unwilling;) but much experience as well as observation on this particular point leads us to still commend the use of salt. Our practice has been to put up hay before it is "dried to sticks," and to use a little salt, say four to ten quarts to the ton, according to its greenness. Usually four or five quarts is sufficient to exert a strongly antiseptic or preserving influence. We by no means "add it all upon the top of a load," but keep a bucket of fine pulverized salt at hand, and sprinkle a little evenly on every layer of hay put into the mow or stack. When the hay has become very dry before gathering, we have frequently brined it when "mowing away."

A correspondent once informed us tha

he measured a quantity of fine salt (from Syracuse salt works) and placed it where his neat stock had free access to it. They, of their own accord, consumed on an average a pint of salt each, in 12 days, or about 2½ pints per month. This is, probably, much above the average, but when mingled with hay in its fresh state, salt in part enters into its composition, so to speak, and we very much doubt whether half a dozen quarts will produce any injurious effects. On the contrary, we believe there is far more danger of injury from musty hay, unpreserved with salt. Our own animals have flourished finely on even poor hay salted, and we have often brined it at feeding when it was put up without salt, and had become a little musty. We have fed many tons of wheat and oat straw to neat-stock, sprinkling it over well with weak, fresh-made, brine. (Brine from meat should never be used as it is poisonous.) We do not remember to have lost an animal, or to have had one "scour." On the contrary they have all been usually found in good heart and good condition on the opening of Spring.

One other fact may be stated in this connection. Along the sea-coast farmers find their cattle to improve by a frequent feed of salt hay. "The salt meadow hay" is as saline as the inland hay with twenty or thirty quarts of Syracuse salt added to the load.—[Ed.

SALT TO DESTROY WORMS.

The following from the Germantown Telegraph, may be good, though we are not prepared to vouch for the statements : "A weak brine, not exceeding the strength of sea water, proves a remedy for the "squash destroyer," one of the insiduous and perserving, as well as voraciously destructive enemies with which the gardener and fruit grower is called to contend. It is also a most effectual preventive of aphides, or plant lice, vermin which prey upon the cabbage and turnip tribes. In every instance of the application of brine to those vegetables that has fallen under our observation, its success has been complete. No injury need be apprehended from a very liberal application, say one quart to a plant, if the solution be of the strength indicated.

All the cabbage tribe are liable to be attacked and fatally injured by minute maggots, resembling, very nearly, the maggots in cheese, and which are doubtless the larva of some fly. There is another enemy, also, by which they are frequently infested—a small grub, similar in many respects to those found in corn and potatoe hills, and which not unfrequently prove very destructive. Salt water applied to the hills will have a tendancy to arrest their depredations, and if the application be repeated frequently, say one, two, or three days, it will effectually destroy or drive them off.

The water, however, should not be allowed to come in contact with the foliage, in this instance, but should be applied to the soil immediately around the stalks, but without coming in actual contact with them. To destroy the first named insect, it may be applied in a state sufficiently dilute to admit of a perfect ablution of every part of the foliage; but, as we said before, care must be taken not to make it too strong, or it will destroy the plant. Every cook knows or ought to know, that the washing of cabbage, lettuce, spinach, &c., in salt water before cooking or preparing for the table, is sure to expel every species of insect which so frequently seeks a habitation or a shelter in these vegetables.

CUTTING GRASS AND GRAIN EARLY.

It is now pretty well established, not only on chemical principles, but by oft-repeated experiment and observation, that all crops designed as food for man or beast should be gathered before full maturity. Grass, while still green, contains a large proportion of starch, sugar and gum, which furnish direct nutriment; but these substances are changed to hard, indigestable, woody fibre as the crop ripens. The same holds true of all kinds of grain. Every one is familiar with the sweet taste of soft corn or wheat, owing to the amount of sugar contained at that period of growth. Gum and starch are likewise abundant. If the maturing process be suddenly arrested at this period, these substances are preserved unchanged, while, if allowed to fully ripen, a considerable portion of them is transformed into the hard, woody husk or bran. The main point to be looked to is, not to cut grain before sufficient maturity is attained to prevent shrinkage or a loss of weight. *Seed* grain may well be left to its natural ripening upon the stalk.

Grass should be cut as soon as the seed is set, or immediately after flowering is over—clover should be cut soon after the full bloom is attained.

A large number of experiments on wheat point to about ten days before full maturity as the best time for cutting. One of the best set of experiments we have seen recorded was made by an English farmer, Mr. Hannam, of Yorkshire. He made five successive cuttings from the same field, with the following results :

Cuttings.	Days before Maturity.	Products of 100 lbs. of Grain.		
		Fine Flour.	Seconds.	Bran.
1	30 days.	75 lbs.	7 lbs.	17 lbs.
2	21 days.	76 lbs.	7 lbs.	16 lbs.
3	14 days.	80 lbs.	5 lbs.	13 lbs.
4	2 days.	77 lbs.	7 lbs.	14 lbs.
5	0 days.	72 lbs.	11 lbs.	15 lbs.

We have not at hand the relative weight of grain gathered at each cutting, but other experiments give also the largest yield for cuttings corresponding with No. 3. In the above example the flour from No. 3 was superior to the others. A practical rule for gathering wheat, corn and other grains is to commence the cutting just when the kernels will yield to a moderate pressure between the thumb nails.—[Ed.

A Frenchman, learning English, and anxious to say something very striking, in parting from the lady of his heart, carefully consulted his dictionary, and there finding that "*to pickle*" meant "*to preserve*," bid her farewell with the emphatic exclamation "may Heaven pickle you ?"

Garden, Orchard, Lawn, &c.

FIVE THOUSAND STRAWBERRY BEDS.

There are among our readers some who are confined entirely to the narrow, crowded streets of cities, and who only read the American Agriculturist to revive the associations of earlier days, or to be prepared for an anticipated hegira to the country in the future. Others of this class take this journal for its articles relating to household economy. But after deducting all of these, we estimate that what we now write will be read by about FIVE THOUSAND owners or cultivators of a large or small plot of ground. In looking over the subjects requiring attention for this month the thought occurred to us, Is every one of these five thousand persons, who are generally the heads of families, supplied with the cheap luxury of a strawberry plot? We have fancied the enjoyment that must have been afforded, say at the dinner or tea hour on any pleasant day of June, when—the heavier dishes having been dispatched—on five thousand tables have appeared five thousand heaping bowls filled with luscious, home-grown strawberries, and home-made cream enough to float them in standing hard by. Such a thought is enough to make any one enjoy himself, for the time being at least, especially if he chance to be one of the five thousand.

But we are sorry so pleasant a flight of fancy must be spoiled by a recurrence to what is the real truth, viz.: that probably not over one in five really possesses what we would fain have fancied before them—that dish of *good*, home-grown strawberries. Perchance not one in ten. We doubt not, nearly every family has had a "mess" or two of small wildlings, gathered by the children after a long hunt over the pasture field, or by trampling down the grass of a meadow already too poor to suffer such additional hard treatment. But such berries are not what we have in mind, not what every one is entitled to, and may easily secure, viz.: large, delicious, cultivated berries, in *short*, "strawberries that are strawberries."

Mr. Barry stated a truism which has come to be a proverb almost, when he said, "Any one who can manage a crop of corn or potatoes can, if he will, grow strawberries." In like manner, Mr. A. J. Downing has beautifully remarked that "Ripe, blushing strawberries, eaten from the plant, or served with sugar and cream, are certainly Arcadian dainties with a true paradisiacal flavor ; and, fortunately, they are so easily grown that the poorest owner of a few feet of ground may have them in *abundance*.

If all this be true, as it most certainly is, why is it that so few persons grow strawberries? Why is it that the pleasant fancy we were just now indulging has little real foundation? We suspect the reason lies just here. Not one in ten have the remotest idea of the ease and cheapness with which strawberries can be cultivated. With this long introduction we offer a few short simple suggestions for the "berryless," with the earnest desire that when next June comes round, and our present number of readers is doubled, as we have every reason to expect will be the case, there may then be among them all, at least FIVE THOUSAND STRAWBERRY BEDS.

WHEN—WHERE—AND HOW TO GROW STRAWBERRIES.

When.—They may be set out at almost any season. We prefer about the first of May for this latitude—earlier South and later North. But the month of August or the fore part of September will answer just as well, and with a little more care in transplanting and watering, quite as well as early in the Spring. Plants set out the first of this month will yield a pretty full crop next year, while those of later setting will produce somewhat. We have gathered a moderate supply the present season from a plot planted the 8th day of last October. We repeat then, any time will do, but if a supply of berries is desired next season, the earlier now the better.

Location and Soil.—Any place, except a low, wet, swamp, or barren, sandy hill will *do*, but a sandy or light loam, moist but not wet, is the best for a soil; and a surface sloping towards the south produces the earliest fruit, especially if it be protected from cold breezes by a close, high board fence on the west, north and east. A thick border of live hedge, or shrubbery of any kind will afford partial protection. For later berries a northern slope should be chosen. Those who have a variety of locations to choose from may secure both early and late crops. But few have this choice. To such we say, take any plot you can spare in the corner of a garden, or of the field if need be. If it can be deeply underdrained all the better, no matter how dry the land is, for air circulating from the drains up through the soil is quite beneficial to the crop, for sundry reasons. However, draining is *not* indispensable. Strawberries will grow without it, unless in a place subject to stagnant water.

Preparing the Ground.—Clear the surface of grass, weeds, and weed seeds as much as possible. Dig up the soil *deeply*, stirring it a foot and a half in depth at least. If the surface soil is rich, mix it partly with the under or sub-soil. If not rich, spade into the subsoil some well rotted manure, or rotten chips or leaves. Strawberries require much water, and when the soil is prepared deeply the roots will penetrate down far enough to find moisture even during a drouth. If the land is moderately rich, a little ashes, lime and salt may be mixed with it, while it is being spaded and finely pulverized. If the soil be poor, it should be treated to a fair coating, well stirred in, either of rotten turf or of good surface soil from elsewhere. Decayed leaves are also excellent. Well rotted manures of any kind may be used in small quantities. Too much of any strong animal manure, is apt to induce too great a growth of vines at the expense of fruit. Let it be borne in mind that the soil should be thoroughly prepared by deep spading, and finely pulverizing it, as it cannot well be worked after the plants are under way. Here "a stitch in time will save nine." Two or three hours work of a man will prepare a bed large enough to supply a family with fruit during the entire season of bearing.

Selection of Varieties.—If a new hand at the business, get of the nearest nurseryman, for the first bed, one or more of the most easily obtainable of the following varieties: Hovey's Seedling, McAvoy's Superior, Burr's New Pine, or Crimson Cone. If more than one kind is used, set them in separate rows, and whether one or more of these four kinds be taken, as they are all pistillate or female plants, be sure to set a short row upon one side of the bed of a few staminate or male plants, say Longworth's Prolific, or of the Large Early Scarlet or Iowas. If you can only take the trouble to get one kind of plants, let it be Longworth's Prolific, as this is partly hermaphrodite, and will bear of its own accord.

Setting the Plants.—These should be put out in rows, say 18 to 24 inches apart, and the plants 10 to 12 inches from each other in the row. Before taking them up for removal, wet the ground thoroughly around them, and keep as much earth remaining upon them as may be. Just after a heavy rain is the best time for transplanting, though it may be done at any time if sufficient care be taken to wet the ground well, not merely sprinkle it, and repeat a thorough watering often enough to keep the soil well moistened. Set boards up by the rows to shield them from the sun's direct rays, for a few days after planting. It is advisable to cover the surface between the rows close up to the plants with tan-bark or leaves, or with fresh-cut grass, and allow this to remain there. Tan-bark is thought to be the best. When cold weather comes on, cover the bed with say two inches of straw, old hay, or even leaves, to protect them during Winter. For further treatment see our Calendar of Operations from month to month, and the article in our June number. For fuller particulars as to soil, planting, varieties, &c., see our issue for March last, and also Pardee's Strawberry Manual.

For a bed 20 feet square the whole work we have indicated will scarcely amount to a day's time, and who would not give that much to have a large supply of firstrate, home-grown berries. The job will be a pleasant and short one when you once set about it. Put it down upon the programme for work that *must* be attended to early this month, then attend to it, and about next June you will thank us for urging this matter upon you now. Who speaks for one of these FIVE THOUSAND STRAWBERRY BEDS?—ED.

TAKE CARE OF FALLEN FRUIT.—Never permit green fruit to decay on the soil beneath the trees. In every apple, pear, plum and cherry, which is prematurely cast, there exist a minute insect which eats its way out in time, and becomes the source of evil to the succeeding crop. Gather all up and either feed them to your domestic animals, or dispose of them in some way which will secure you against the results which must necessarily ensue from neglect. Swine turned into orchards the last of June, and permitted to have access till the fruit is gathered against insects by destroying the wormy fruit that produces them.

WORMS IN APPLES.

THE APPLE WORM OR CODLING MOTH, (*carpocapsa pomonalla.*)

A correspondent writing from Jackson, Mich., says that fruit growing is the principal business of the farmers in his vicinity, but the depredations of the apple worm offer material obstacles to the orchardist. During some years, and especially in 1854, the crop in many orchards was lessened at least one half. He thinks that if any method can be devised for preserving the fruit from this destructive insect it will be an immense boon to the pomologist. In a Post Script, Mr. Cook adds, "Having a leisure moment and not knowing whether you have ever been favored with a sight of one of these pests, I enclose three specimens with the hope that they will come to hand in good condition. And that you may have no doubt as to the genuineness of these, I will state that I have repeatedly taken the worms from the apple, put them in a glass jar where they remained during the transition which was from one to two weeks, according to the temperature of the weather. Thus what Mr. Cole conjectured we have demonstrated over and over, to be a fact, viz.; that some come out soon and produce a second generation the same season. * * * By the way I would like very much to ascertain how it is in other sections, whether they are on the increase or decrease."

D. C.

The specimens came to hand in good order, and we at once recognized them as very familiar acquaintances. We have met them wherever we have traveled during many years past. Our impression is that they are not quite so abundant this year, as they were in 1854 and previously. They are the moths of the apple-worm, or rather a caterpillar, the insect that enters the apple itself is a true caterpillar.

These moths are seen at various times during the month of June and July, generally appearing first about the middle of June. They are sometimes seen in the evening trying to escape outward through the window, having been brought into the house with the fruit, in the caterpillar state. They can be distinguished from all other moths by a large oval, brown spot, edged with bright copper color, on the hinder margin of each of the fore wings. The fore wings, when seen at a distance have the appearance of brown watered silk, upon which a close examination show numerous gray and brown lines crossing each other. The head and thorax (chest) are grayish brown; the abdomen and hind wings, satin yellowish brown. The wings of the full grown moth expand three-fourths of an inch.

During the evenings of June and July, these moths drop their eggs one by one in the eye or hollow of the blossom end of the fruit, where the skin is most tender. Early fruit suffers more from their attacks than later varieties. The eggs hatch in a few days when the minute worms, which are of a whitish color with a black head, at once commence to cut the apple, working towards the core. They attain their full size in about three weeks assuming in the mean time a flesh or brownish color, and have burrowed to the core or gone through the apple in various directions causing it to fall prematurely.

The worms usually leave the fruit very soon after it falls from the tree, if indeed they have not already left, and find their way into crevices in the bark of the tree, or in other sheltered situations where they envelop themselves in a silken shroud or cocoon much like tissue paper in appearance. This retreat is in most cases their winter habitation.

Some of the earlier worms, however, change to the chrysalis state very soon after weaving their shroud, and in a few days come forth winged and lay their eggs for a second generation, thus producing worm-eaten apples in the fall.

PREVENTIVE.

During the latter part of June, and the first of July, when the moths or millers are very abundant, kindle bonfires of shavings, or what is better, prepare torches by winding tow upon sticks, and dipping them in tar. Place these in various parts of the orchard, and light them at night. Vast numbers of the deluded insects, will be attracted by the flame and become their own destroyers.

Another method is to partially fill open wide mouthed bottles with a mixture of molasses, vinegar, and water, and suspend them in the branches of trees, when moths, beetles, and various other insects will be attracted, some by the sweets, and others by the acid, all finding a "watery grave." The bottles will want emptying and replenishing often. Downing mentions an amateur acquaintance of his who in one season caught more than three bushels of insects of different kinds by this method, and preserved his garden almost entirely from their attacks in any shape.

Birds should be protected and encouraged by the fruit grower, as they render him far more service by preying upon the insects which destroy his finest fruits, than injury by picking a few of his cherries, therefore "Spare the birds." Bats also feed especially upon the millers which are flying about at night, thus rendering themselves a friend to the farmer.

Old cloths may be put in the crotches and branches of trees, which will afford a good harbor for the moths to spin in, and by removing and burning them or dipping them in boiling water, hundreds of the chrysalids will be destroyed.

The early fallen fruit should be picked up each morning and boiled or fed out at once; hogs and sheep will assist in this if allowed the range of the orchard. Poultry will destroy many of the worms as they leave the fruit.

One other method is to scrape the rough bark from the trees early in the spring which will remove large numbers of the cocoons, and thus destroy the future brood in embryo.—[Ed.

PRACTICAL HINTS ON PRESERVING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

SELF-SEALING OR AIR-TIGHT CANS.

In our last issue we referred to the "self-sealing" cans, and stated that we had concluded to give them a trial the present year. Recently we had a lengthy conversation with Mr. S., an intelligent gentleman who had the time, means, and inclination to give these cans a full trial last year. He states that for the sweeter varieties of cherries, for peaches, and for sweet fruits generally, they gave the highest satisfaction; but with currants and other strongly acid (sour) fruits they failed entirely, as the acids invariably eat through the cans. Tomatoes kept beautifully without a case of failure, and this fruit preserved came out of the cans at different periods, not only in an excellent state of preservation, but it tasted quite as good as that fresh picked from the vines. This superior flavor may be owing to their being eaten at a time when fresh fruit is not obtainable. Mr. S. says he has not succeeded in preserving green corn, peas, beans, or other articles of this class. His experience is different from that of some others, and thus far those we have conversed with appear to be about equally divided as to the utility of the tin vessels, for either green vegetables or acid fruits—some having succeeded with them, while others, with apparently an equal degree of skill and care have signally failed. We repeat the caution offered last month, to invariably close every can perfectly with wax. The screw and India rubber collar may make a can nearly air-tight, but these are not to be depended upon. Beeswax is quite as good as any compound preparation that can be made.

OTHER METHODS OF PRESERVING.

Everybody knows how to *dry* fruit, or at least his wife does. Green corn is not dried as often as it should be. We have had all the present season a good supply of green peas, that were picked green in Germany last year, dried and brought in that condition to this country. We have been unable to learn the method pursued there in drying them. Can any of our readers inform us?

A method of drying peaches, apples, &c., not much in use, is to be commended. Let them be pared and grated or mashed to a pulp, and then spread out on plates and dried into thin sheets. This is an excellent plan for "curing" tomatoes, peaches, &c. The drying can be done in an oven kept at a low heat. It is better to add a little sugar and cook them somewhat before drying. We prefer the addition of a small quantity of salt to tomatoes dried thus—not enough to affect the taste, but about as much as would ordinarily be used in cooking them.

Well ripened fruit will keep well in cans, or dried, without much cooking, but all unmatured articles should be cooked. The want of care in commencing the preserving process just at the time of maturity is the source of much loss. If too ripe fermentation commences and is likely to continue.

FRUIT JARS.

One of the best things for putting down preserved fruits cheaply, is a well-covered, *well-glazed*, stoneware jar, holding from one to two quarts. We have several of these, of two quarts capacity, which we think the next best thing to the self-sealing tin cans for any kind of fruits, and better than the latter for acid fruits. They are seven to eight inches high, and five to six inches internal diameter. They have a close fitting cover about four inches in diameter, which sets down into them upon a flange or neck nearly an inch from the top.

Whatever article is to be preserved is cooked in the usual manner of preparing it for the tin cans. The jar is then heated quite up to the temperature of boiling water, and the fruit boiling hot poured in, filling it just up to the bottom of the cover. The cover, which has previously been prepared with a piece of cotton cloth dipped in melted wax and placed upon its under side and extending over the edge all around, is then placed upon the fruit and firmly pressed down. A layer of beeswax is then poured around the edge and over the top, and cooled by applying a cloth wrung out of cold water. As soon as the wax begins to harden, it is pressed down around the rim of the cover with the fingers, care being taken that the liquid that may have oozed out in pressing it down, does not prevent the perfect adhesion of the wax both to the cover and jar. Before the jar is entirely cold a little more melted wax is put upon the most exposed parts.

We do not claim that this process is as perfect as that adopted in the use of the screw-covered "air-tight" tin cans, but it has some advantages. The stone jars of good quality can usually be obtained where the tin cans are not accessible. The well-glazed vessels are not acted upon by any acid in the fruit. The wide opening of the jars renders it easy to preserve the large fruits, such as peaches, in a whole state. The stone jars are quite cheap; a dozen of superior quality cost us $1,50.

There is a manifest advantage in the use of small jars over the larger sizes, for all kinds of preserves, as the first cost of the former is but a little greater, proportionally, while if those holding one or two quarts are used, only that amount of fruit need be opened at any one time.

We say then, those who can, may well provide themselves with some of the tin cans for tomatoes and sweet fruits, getting jars for the tart kinds; and all may easily procure *small* jars enough to supply themselves with the luxury of fresh fruits the year round.—[Ed.

A Hopeful Youth.—"You want a flogging, that's what you do," said a parent to his unruly son. "I know it, dad, but I'll try to get along without it."

THE SQUASH BUG.

July 15, 1856.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Enclosed I send you specimens of an insect which just now threatens a total destruction of the squash vines, and in many cases even those of the pumpkin, I find them especially on my winter squashes, where from their numbers both of full grown insects and nests of eggs, I very much fear that on a large patch, not a vine will be left.

I send you four specimens which, had I not examined them attentively, I should say were at least three distinct insects, but I have watched them closely for two years, and have actually seen the largest bug in the act of depositing its eggs upon the under side of the squash leaf, in patches of from 10 to 25 or 30 in number. I have also watched the eggs as they hatched a yellowish porcupine looking worm, which almost immediately commences its depredations by apparently eating away all the cellular substance, leaving the fibrous portion to wither and dry up as though scorched. They continue to feed and increase in size until they are about one-fourth of an inch in length and from six to ten days old, when they undergo another transformation and assume the form of a bug like the turtle back beetle enclosed, which is more destructive than when in the worm or caterpillar state.

They are now exceedingly voracious, commencing upon one edge of the leaf, and scarcely quitting it until a large part is eaten away and withered as stated above.

I have attempted to destroy them in this stage by going over the vines with a dish of hot water, and scalding them by immersion, but the process is a slow one and the numbers scarcely seem to diminish although I have repeated the process daily.

Can any one tell me how to rid my vines from such unwelcome and vicious intruders?

T. C.

Remarks.—The specimens arrived in good order and are at once recognized as the genuine Squash-bug, (*coreus tristis*, of the order Hemiptera heteroptera). Our correspondent describes the habits of the insect very accurately. By far the easiest method of protecting the vines is to search for the full grown bugs (largest of the specimens sent,) which is a dark or rusty colored bug about ⅝ of an inch long, and destroy them previous to laying their eggs, by which means a whole brood is annihilated at once.

They may be found at almost any time during the month of July, and even into August on the main stalk of the vine near the ground, or else upon the ground where they endeavor to escape observation. Being of a dusky color they are not always readily discovered. As they lay several litters of eggs during the season, it is always better to destroy them early, but in case they escape observation previous to laying, the eggs may readily be destroyed by pinching out that part of the leaf upon which they are found.

A little time spent each day in hunting the insects previous to laying, and their eggs when laid, will save much after labor in staying their ravages and preserve the vines from destruction.

We found these depredators in large numbers on our vines from the 10th to the 15th of July, and succeeded in saving the vines by a very little labor such as we have recommended.—[Ed.

PURSLAIN.

" Mean as purslain," is a Yankee proverb, which describes both the plant, and a certain class of men. It is now abundant in all places in the garden, in the rows of carrots and onions, among the squash vines, under the spreading corn, wherever there is a patch of dirt not touched with the hoe. Cut it up by the roots, and unless you carry it off out of the garden, you have gained very little. A slight rain will reinvigorate it, and after a few days your purslain will be as green as ever. Turn it bottom upward, and it will not die, unless the sun actually crisps it. Even when wilted and perfectly dead to appearance, it will surprise you with new life after a few days neglect. If allowed to go to seed, it will soon stock a garden for a whole generation. There is no end to its progeny. One plant, with its one mean little root in the ground will sprawl over a patch of ground as big as a bushel. A pig weed, when plucked up, will die a decent death, as if it belonged to a mortal race, but this mean thing is as vital in every part as Milton's fallen spirits, and about as vile.

It is a sponge upon the soil of the garden, humble and obscure, but all the while draining the life out of it, in a very sly way like a vegetable vampyre. Its meanness in this respect is an apt type of certain specimens of humanity. There is nothing honest and manly about them. They do nothing praise worthy, render to the world no equivalent for the manifold service, which society renders them. They are mean as purslain.

It is hard to get rid of, and in this respect it reminds one of certain human bores, that infest all communities. They greet you in the morning and bore you until you invite them to lend a hand, when they guess it is about time they were going. Thinking you are rid of them for the day, they drop in again at noon. They will not take a hint, but rob you of time. They are mean as purslain.

But we have not time to apply the proverb. The great business now is to apply the hoe to the purslain, rake it up in heaps, and carry it to the pig stye. We believe it has never been known to sprout under a pigs nose, or in the heat of a compost heap. If fermented it dies, and the seeds are destroyed. Apply the hoe and rake, boys, and clear the garden of this mean weed.—[Ed.

Improved Currants.—We received a basket of very large, nearly uniform size, and finely flavored red currants, from Mr. Funnel, of Huntington, L. I., with the promise of the detailed management with his bushes, which has brought them up to the present high standard, in size and quality. We shall be happy to place the statement of Mr. F. before our readers.—[Ed.

TOMATOES—SUPPORTING AND SHORTENING-IN.

Few gardens are now found unsupplied with tomatoes, but very few persons take any pains to *cultivate* them. The vines are usually left to straggle *ad libitum.* This is both bad economy and bad taste. If tomatoes are planted in rows, a convenient plan is to put up stakes on both sides of each row, and nail on horizontal strips or slats to keep the vines perpendicular. They may be carried up to the hight of three to five feet. By this means the vines will show much better, especially when covered with ripened fruit clustering thickly upon the sides. The fruit itself will be much superior to that matured on the ground and in the shade. Strong twine or wires may be substituted for the horizontal slats. A cheaper process of supporting tomatoes is to bush them, in the same manner that beans or peas are treated. Our own tomatoes are planted around the border of the garden and trained upon the fence, the vines being upheld by strips of leather, doubled around the stalks and fastened to the fence with small nails.

Tomatoes are also benefitted by *shortening-in.* Three-fourths of the mature fruit is produced upon a small part of the vine nearest to the root, say one-third or one-fourth of its length. It is recommended to stop the further development of vines after a fair supply of fruit is set, by clipping off the vines growing beyond. The clipping should not be carried too far, as a supply of foliage is required to gather food from the air. One of the most successful cultivators in our acquaintance made it a rule to let no vine extend beyond four feet from its root.—[Ed.

THE CURCULIO SMOKED OUT AT LAST.

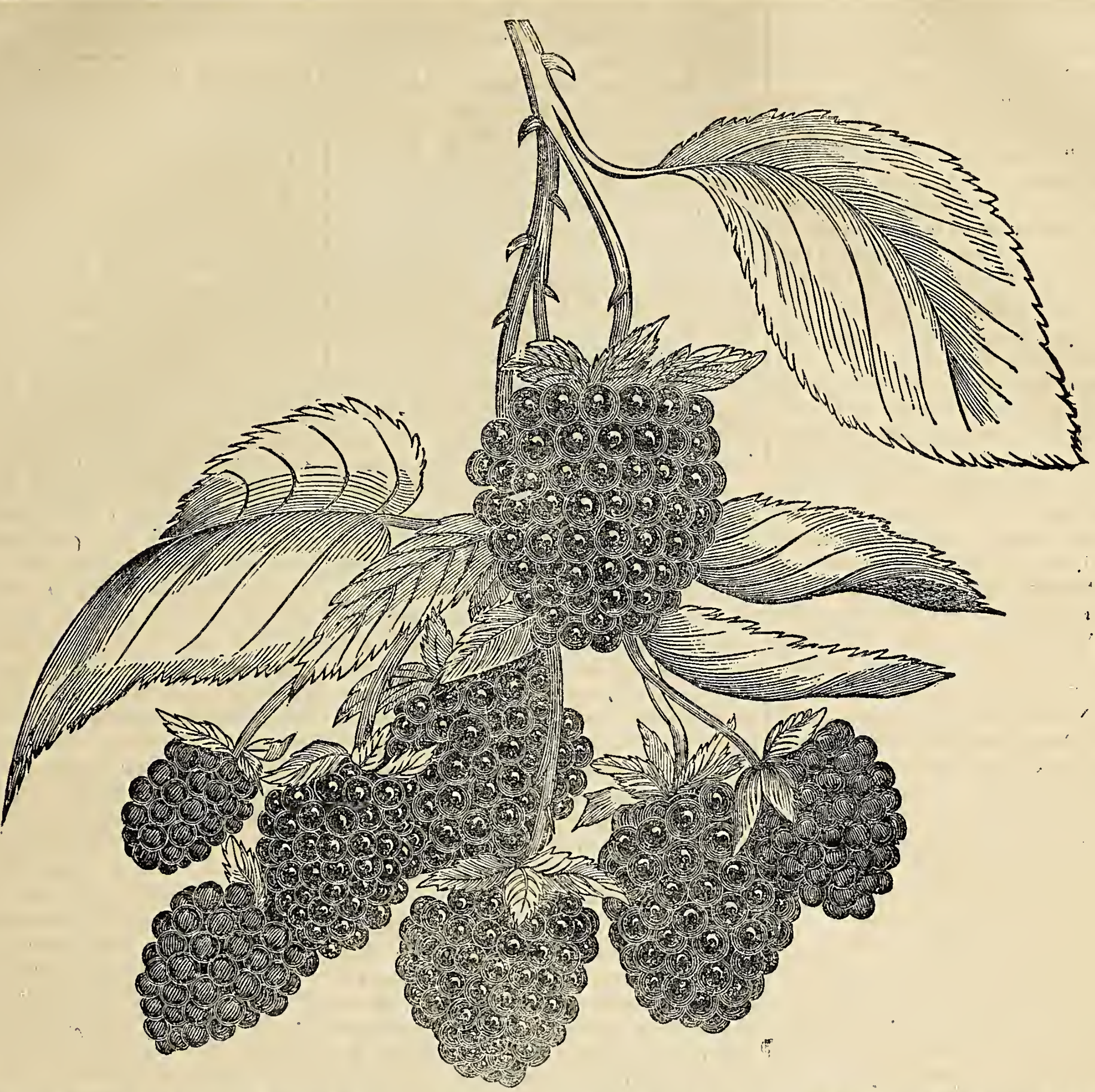
Sometime since we announced that the Kentucky Horticultural Society had offered a premium of five hundred dollars for a cheap and effectual remedy against the Curculio. Several have already been proposed, of which the following, published in the Louisville Journal, has the merits of cheapness and simplicity at least, and it is said to be effectual. Here it is with the proposer's specification :—

I take an old tin pan that is worn out or unfit for other use, put some coals from the fire into it, and lay on strong tobacco and smoke the tree and young plums well. One nail through the bottom of the pan into the end of a stick or pole five or six feet in length, is sufficient, so that it can be raised handily and carried about the tree and through the branches. Care must be taken not to have a blaze. This should be repeated about once a week for three weeks, after the plum is formed from the blossom.

Thomas T. Glenn.

Niles, Berrien county, Mich.

Remember that one weed going to seed now will sow a square yard for next season



New Rochelle, Or Lawton Blackberry.

THE NEW BLACKBERRY.

Above we present an illustration of this comparatively new variety of Blackberry, which we have so strongly commended to the attention of our readers during the past two years. We think no one will be surprised at our good opinion of this fruit, when we inform them that the above cut gives a fair representation of the *actual size*, as well as of the general appearance of a cluster of berries no larger than many we have seen, handled and tasted. As we stated last year, notwithstanding the extraordinary size of the fruit—30 to 40 of the *medium* size berries filling a pint measure, as we have repeatedly proved by trial—still it has a delicious flavor, and it contains comparatively very few seeds. The great productiveness, the easy culture, and the hardiness of the plant adapt it to general cultivation, in almost all soils and in most locations. We are in no way interested in the sale of this plant, not yet having enough for home consumption, but we think every one of our readers who may be led by our representations to secure at least half a dozen or more plants the coming Autumn will be positively benefited thereby. We are glad to learn from our advertising columns that there is a much larger supply of plants offered for sale than heretofore, and that the prices are reasonable. It will not be difficult for five or six or more neighbors to club together and get fifty or a hundred plants at the lowest rates. By this plan the expense of transportation will also be light.

We advise Fall transplanting as the best for blackberry vines, though, except at the far South, those planted early in the Spring will thrive well. We set out seven plants on the 20th of May, the present year, four of which are growing at this date. The other three have no leaves upon them, though two are still green at the lower part of the stalk.

A word as to the hardiness of the plant:

Happening in South Norwalk, Conn., on the 24th ult., we took a ramble over the grounds of Messrs. George Seymour & Co., where, in 1854, we first saw the New-Rochelle or Lawton Blackberry growing in large quantities, at which time we described it at some length in Vol. XII. at page 321. We found that this year Seymour & Co. have full six acres of young vines, all in vigorous growth, notwithstanding the severe cold they were subjected to last Winter. Most of the wood formed last Summer was cut down the past Spring, in order to induce the starting of young vines from the roots, to meet the increasing demand for plants. Still we found scattered here and there a sufficient number of old plants to show that they have lost none of their reputation for perpetual bearers. At the date above named, (24th ult.,) the berries had commenced ripening and the vines were literally loaded down with large clusters. Single canes contained from forty to seventy-five and even more, of clusters as large as the one figured in the cut at the head of this article. We should ourselves hardly credit this statement at second hand.

In regard to the effects of the last Winter, we learn that they stood the cold much better than the wild varieties, growing near by, and under similar circumstances. Mr. Seymour informed us that many of the larger canes were nipped at the top, and some of them were killed down to the surface of the snow, though wherever the last year's growth was not cut down to make way for the young plants we found a sufficiency of live wood remaining to furnish a large yield of fruit. The only effect of the frost was to kill the upper part of the canes, which induced a heavier growth of *side* branches. Mr. Seymour recommends to pinch off the top of the canes in all cases where they have obtained the height of 3½ to 4 feet, which leads to a much fuller growth of side branches as well as of fruit. If this course is not pursued the canes grow 6 or 8 feet high, and even higher, and when loaded with fruit they are more liable to bend down if unsupported. During nine years that this plant has been fruited by Mr. Seymour it has shown no variation in bearing from year to year, and though growing entirely unprotected in open fields, it has never been injured by cold until last Winter, and then it suffered much less than the peach, pear, and many of the evergreen trees growing in the same field.

A CHANCE FOR A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.

Above we have recommended all of our readers to procure a few plants for home use. We will here add that we believe a few enterprising men would find it a decidedly paying investment, to secure three to five acres or more of suitable land in the vicinity of some of our larger cities, and engage in producing this fruit for market. It sold readily last year for 25 to 50 cents per quart in this city, and it will be a long time before it can become so abundant as not to bring very remunerative prices. It has been tried for wine-making with the most satisfactory results, and the high value set upon "blackberry wine for medicinal purposes" will call for a large amount of this fruit for its manufacture.—[Ed.

THE EFFECTS OF COLD UPON THE LAWTON OR NEW ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY; RED CEDAR, &C.

New-Rochelle, July 15, 1856.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

The low temperature of the past Winter was destructive to trees and plants that have hitherto survived all changes—and it is not surprising that in some localities the blackberry should be injured. I had several acres crowded with plants, and in taking up many thousand in the Spring I in no instance found them "killed down to the ground." The extremities of the canes being the latest growth of the season, were in some cases killed, but not below the point to which I recommend cultivators of these plants to prune them. I visited the grounds of Messrs. George Seymour & Co., (which you have heretofore described,) to ascertain the effects of cold upon their plants, and from what I saw, and from the evidence of Mr. Seymour, I am convinced that under every vicissitude of climate and variation of soil this blackberry remains true to the original, and that the genuine plants are more hardy than the wild varieties, and will endure without protection the coldest climate, and all who keep the true variety unmixed with seedlings or the wild upright plants which abound everywhere, will give the same testimony.

When the effects of the low temperature of last Winter began to be seen upon our various hardy trees and plants, I took a stroll of several miles in this neighborhood, to examine them in different localities. The effect upon the common red cedar was very peculiar and destructive, equally so upon low or high ground. The vitality seems not only to have been destroyed, but the sap entirely dried out; sometimes a single branch, or the branches on one side, or the top only, and sometimes in a larger collection, one half appeared to be unscathed, and the residue totally destroyed or injured as above described. But the dead or injured trees are mingled in with the healthy, without any regard to the aspect or locality.

Respectfully yours,
Wm. Lawton.

A COUPLE OF RASPBERRY PATCHES—A LARGE AND A SMALL ONE—HOW TO GROW RASPBERRIES.

Happening into the market stand of Messrs. Hawley, Smith and Carman the other morning, we were so much pleased with a lot of Antwerp Raspberries, and with what we heard of the plot they came from, that we struck a 'bee line' for South Norwalk, Conn. to hunt up the grower, Mr. Samuel Seymour, a young farmer some 22 or 23 years old, and who is yet upon the old homestead. (We mention this fact for the benefit of other young men.)

We found the 'raspberry patch' to consist of just 100 square rods, (not 100 rods square,) or five-eighths of an acre. The ground was uniformly covered with plants all just up to our eyes, (we stand 5 feet 10 in low heeled boots,) and we could not find a fruitless hill upon the whole. As a matter of information to the novice in raspberry growing, and its profits, we proceed to give the history of this plot.

The soil was a very stony one on a side hill. Without estimating the countless loads of stones removed in times past, one hundred cartloads were taken off to prepare it for the raspberries. This was in the fall of 1852. Twelve cartloads of manure were then worked into the surface. This manure consisted of barn-yard manure composted or rotted with swamp muck.

November 1852 the plants were set out, four in the hill, and the hills four feet apart each way. The canes or stalks when transplanted were about three feet in hight. They were immediately bent down and covered with one to two inches of soil. In the Spring they were uncovered 'just before the peach trees were in full blossom.' The canes were then raised up and tied to small stakes set in the center of each hill. They were afterwards cultivated 'just like corn,' the cultivator and hoe being used to keep the weeds down and the ground loose and level. The plot yielded 440 pint baskets of fruit the first season, (1853). When the bearing season was over the old canes were cut off close to the ground and the stakes taken up. In the Fall, before the ground froze, the young plants were bent down and covered.

In the Spring of 1854 the same course was pursued, as during the previous year. The season was a bad one and only 226 baskets were picked for market. In the Fall, cutting down old wood and covering the young plants, were again resorted to.

In the Spring of last year, (1855) in addition to the previous cultivation, a coating or mulching of three loads of salt hay was spread over the surface. This kept down weeds and saved nearly all trouble of hoeing, and kept the ground moist, besides preventing any soiling of the fruit during rain. The crop for 1855 amounted to 5,026 pint baskets, which sold for $360. Considerable quantities were also consumed at home, and distributed among friends. The same season young plants were sold amounting to $176 50. The 100 square rods thus produced in 1855 $536 50, or at the rate of $858 40 per acre. The entire expense of culture, picking, marketing, interest of land and capital invested, &c., was $125. Net proceeds of the plot $411 50, or $658 40 per acre.

Last fall the usual cutting and covering were again pursued. The mulching was spaded in at the time of burying, and formed part of the covering.

In the Spring of this year (1856) the ground received a new mulch of salt hay, and to this date very few weeds have grown through it. Straw, bog hay, saw dust, spent tan, &c., will answer as well as the salt hay, which was used in this case because more conveniently procured. We cannot estimate the amount of the crop the present season, as the gathering is still going on. To this date (July 24) 4,600 baskets have been sold. The plants are now suffering for want of rain. Since the old plants are cut down every year, and new ones take their places, there is no reason why such a plot should not continue in good bearing for any length of time. The picking is done by boys at one cent a quart, at which price they make 40 to 62½ cents per day.

As stated above, these are the *pure* Antwerp variety. The fruit is not quite as large and 'juicy' as the Fastolf, but it is much firmer, and therefore bears marketing better where they are to be carried far. For *home* use we give the preference to the Fastolf. Mr. Seymour sends them to market in pint baskets and quart boxes. We have seen tin cans used the present season, but the berries do not keep as well in these as in open baskets. Berries in baskets sell a little higher and more readily than when in wooden boxes.

RASPBERRY PLOT NO. 2—FASTOLFS.

One of our 'right hand' men in the Agriculturist office, having looked over the above in type, proposes to add something about his 'patch' of berries, or rather, we propose to have him do so, as we can vouch for the accuracy of his statements, as well as for those of Mr. Seymour, given above. Plot No. 2 consist of only 2¼ square rods or 612 square feet, located in a small garden. The plants are of the Fastolf variety, set in rows 3½ feet apart, and the canes about 18 inches from each other in the row. This plot has been cultivated much like that of Mr. Seymour, with the exception of mulching. Up to this date, (July 26,) 101 baskets have been picked, a dozen of which have been used in the family. The balance have been sold in Fulton Market for $13 25, or $11 04 net, after deducting one-sixth for commission to the retailers. A number of the first baskets were retailed from the market for 18 to 22 cents each. The plot is still bearing. No account is kept of the expense of cultivation or picking, as this is done before and after business hours.

There are thousands of men engaged in various occupations in this and other cities, who reside in the country or in suburban villages, where they have their garden plots. How many of them might have a plot of raspberries like No. 2.

There is scarcely any limit to the demand. The improved methods of preserving now coming into use, will largely increase the call for most of the small fruits. The price has been quite as high the present year as for some time past, notwithstanding that the increase in the number of new cultivators of such fruits has almost doubled the products within a year or two.

As described above, Autumn is the best season for setting out raspberry plants, though they can be moved in the Spring, even up to the middle of May in this latitude. For two weeks past we have been gathering small quantities of fine Fastolfs from plants transferred to our garden on the 17th of May the present year.—[Ed.

THE KITCHEN GARDEN.

SOME THINGS THAT MAY BE PLANTED AT THIS SEASON.

Cucumbers.—Those who are fond of pickled cucumbers, but who have lost their first plantings from the attacks of bugs—and we have heard an unusual number of complaints on this score the present season—may still secure a fair crop from seed planted as late as Aug. 1, especially in localities not further north than 42° north latitude. Prepare the soil by spading it deeply and pulverizing it well, mixing with it a fair supply of decomposed manure. The vines will be hastened forward by an occasional watering with liquid manure, weak guano water, wash from the sink, urine, &c. The soap suds made on washing-day is also very good for cucumbers. They are quickly grown by such treatment. We gathered nice cucumbers for the table the present season in fifty-nine days after planting. The soil was but moderately fertile. A little finely ground bone was mixed with the soil in the hill, and the plants afterwards watered with 'sink slops.' We put a large number of seeds in broad hills, and started plants enough to satisfy the bugs, and some to spare. As they grew too thickly, even after considerable destruction from insects, the vines were thinned out as fast as they crowded too close upon each other.

Green Peas.—We have just put in a bed of peas for late use and for drying in a green state. A variety called the Daniel O'Rourke, planted May 12, were ready for the table June 9. These were from Germany, obtained by the agent of the Patent Office. Another variety, called the Dwarf Hamburg, received also from the Commissioner of Patents, was sown May 12 and were picked for cooking June 23. These are genuine dwarfs, growing scarcely six inches in hight. Both of these varieties promise to be valuable acquisitions. The earlier kinds of peas may be sown now, and they will be ready for use the latter part of September. Soak the seed 24 hours, and sow on light or moderately light soil, manured with well decomposed yard manure. Stimulating manures produce too great a growth of vines, with a lack of pods.

Radishes.—May be sown at any time and on almost any soil. Early radishes do best on light, rich, dry sandy loam, but at this season a deep moist soil is preferable. *Winter* radishes may be sown all through August and into September, taken up before freezing, and stored in sand in the cellar for table use in Winter. The Black Fall Spanish, White Fall Spanish, and Rose-colored China Winter, are good varieties for the purpose. The last named is a new variety, well spoken of.

Kidney Beans.—These may still be planted, and produce a good crop of string beans either for cooking or pickling. The early Mohawk has frequently been ready for the table in five weeks after planting. Green beans are by many preferred to cucumbers for pickling, and not without good reason, we think. For a late crop choose a light soil, tolerably dry. If poor, apply a good dressing of well-rotted manure in the hill, mixing it well with earth before putting in the seed. If strong green manures are used they are apt to produce too large growth of vines at the expense of the pods.

Carrots.—If the garden is not yet provided with a bed of carrots, a small plot may be sown in this latitude. For a large crop the sowing should have been done previous to this date. The Early Horn variety is the most forward in ripening. Carrots grow best on a deep, light sandy soil, well manured. The seed may be soaked a few hours, and then sown pretty thickly in drills, to be thinned out to three or four inches after they are well started.

Destruction of Weeds in Paved Paths and Courts.—The growing of weeds between the stones of a pavement is often vey injurious, as well as unsightly. The following method of destroying them is adopted at the Mint in Paris and elsewhere, with good effect. One hundred pounds of water, twenty pounds of quick-lime, and two pounds of flour of sulphur, are boiled in an iron vessel; the liquor allowed to settle, the clear part drawn off, and being more or less diluted, according to circumstances, is to be used for watering the alleys and pavements. The weeds will not reappear for several years.

This plan will probably prove effectual, but remember that the liquid will be death to the box or other plants upon the borders of such plots or paths, if it be allowed to reach the roots.—[Ed.

SHORT CHAPTER ON SEEDS.

True, a seed is a seed; but it is a good deal more than a seed. It is a history, and it is ready for another history. A whole summer is wrapped up in that pea. A whole summer wrought to form that bean. A whole summer spent its time about that ear of corn. It came forth small as a needle. It stood tremulous and yellow for weeks, it waxed apace in June, it rustled in July, it stood up the noblest of all the grasses in August, with a many-fringed band of flowers on its lap, and with a little baby ear at its breast, with silken hair hanging down uncombed yet untangled, and spotted and powdered with pollen. This is the time to wander in the corn! You are hidden at six steps. It is a pet forest. People ride past and wagons roll within a few rods of you, and you are unseeing and unseen. The wind comes in gentle puffs, and sets all the pliant sword leaves a-quake. Little birds that do not know that you are there, fly in and alight within hand reach, but at a glance, seeing their mistake, fly as if the tassel was hot and burned their feet! We see all *that*, in those barrels of Tuscarora corn, in that white flint corn, and in that yard-long ear of yellow flint. H. W. Beecher.

A celebrated geologist, member of the Academy of Sciences in France, was recently traveling in the southern part of that country, when he stopped at a miserable inn to dine. He could not get any thing to eat but a meager omelet, overdosed with garlic. "Why in the world," said he to the landlady, "did you put so much garlic into the omelet?" "Dear me, sir!" was the reply, "the eggs were *so* bad!"

Genealogical.—So far as we know, all those bearing the name of Judd in this country, are the descendants of Thomas Judd, who came from England in 1633, and settled at Cambridge, Mass., from whence he removed to Hartford, Conn., in 1636. All bearing that name, as well as descendants in a female line, will be pleased to learn that a genealogical register giving the succession, names, ages, and many particulars of residence, occupation, &c., of the Judd family in its different branches, has just been completed and printed by Sylvester Judd, Esq., of Northampton, Mass., formerly for many years editor of the Hampshire Gazette. This has been the work of several years, and it has been well done, we think. The names of some two thousand or more persons have been collected. Those interested in this matter who may desire the book can have it forwarded by mail in pamphlet form of 112 pages. The price is only 50 cents, with 4 cents additional if postage is prepaid.—[Ed.

Do all the good you can,
At all the times you can,
In all the ways you can,
To all the people you can,
And as long as you can.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &c.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, July 29, 1856.

Since our last review, (June 28,) the fluctuations in Breadstuffs have been similar to those of June, that is, a decline during the first part of the month, and an advance for the last part. This resulted mainly from favorable and unfavorable European advices. As will be seen below, the transactions have been large, the transpiring sales of Wheat being nearly one and three-fourths millions of bushels (1,727,000,) and of flour 423,500 bbls. Reckoning a barrel of flour as five bushels of Wheat, the total sales are equivalent to nearly five million bushels of Wheat. For some days past trade in Breadstuffs has been very active, and while we write a report reaches us of a small advance in Liverpool, which will doubtless stimulate prices here.

In regard to the prospect in this country, for the Wheat and Corn crops, so far it is apparently very good. There are just now extensive complaints, fears rather, of a severe drouth. Almost all parts of the country have been without rain for two weeks past. The warm weather was needed by corn at first and it has come forward very rapidly, but is beginning to suffer. Should a general rain occur soon, this crop will be very large.

Wheat has been generally gathered in excellent condition where harvesting is completed, which is the case over a large portion of the great wheat-growing regions. We have been surprised at the small number of complaints of loss from insects, drouth, or wet, that have reached us during the past month. After much inquiry, and an extensive correspondence, embracing prominent points in all the wheat-producing States, we are led to conclude that the yield has been quite good, and the *quality* unusually so. We have little doubt that the amount of *first quality* Wheat is largely in excess of that of last year. One year ago we urged farmers to sell their wheat as soon as they could get it to market. If any body lost by so doing we should like to hear of it. This year we have no advice to give. If *we* had *wheat* to sell now, we should not have it long, if anybody would buy it at present prices, or at least at the highest prices attainable within the month of August, but we *urge* no one else to that course.

☞ To our numerous correspondents who have liberally supplied us with "notes of the crops" in their respective localities, we return our sincere thanks, and beg a continuance of similar favors.

We find upon our note-book, records of sales in this City for 27 business days, ending yesterday: of Flour, 423,500 barrels; of Wheat, 1,727,000 bushels; of Corn, 1,259,500 bushels; of Rye, 210,600 bushels. Our last report, (June 28,) for 26 business days gave of Flour, 418,470 barrels; of Wheat, 1,403,250 bushels; of Corn, 1,259,800 bushels; of Rye 218,000 bushels.

The following figures show the present prices of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

		June 28.	July 29.
Flour—Superfine No. 2.....		$4 50@ 5 25	$5 25@5 90
Ordinary State		5 25@ 5 50	5 90@ 6 00
Mixed Western.........		4 85@ 6 25	5 25@ 7 00
Favorite and Ex. State..		5 75@ 6 35	6 10@ 6 40
Extra Genesee		6 25@ 8 25	6 75@ 7 75
Wheat—Canada White.....		1 50@ 1 75	1 70@ 1 81
Southern White		1 37@ 1 67	1 60@ 1 80
Southern Red...........		1 50@ 1 58	1 50@ 1 68
Western Red and White		1 25@ 1 50	1 30@ 1 55
Corn—Western Mixed......		40@ 56	55@ 62
.....Yellow and White.		45@ 65	63@ 85
Rye		84@ 86	70@ 85
Barley....................		@	@
Oats—Western, &c..........		30@ 39	34@ 45
Cotton—Middling...........		11@ 11¼	11⅜@ 11⅞
Rice................	℘100℔s	3 62@ 4 50	3 75@ 4 50
Pork—Mess.........	℘ bbl...	17 25@20 50	20 25@20 37
Dressed Hogs......	℘ ℔....	7½@ 8½	7½@ 8¼
Lard, in bbls......	℘ ℔....	11@ 12	12¼@ 13
Butter—Western...	℘ ℔....	15@ 19	12@ 18
State...........	℘ ℔....	18@ 25	14@ 22
Cheese.	℘ ℔....	6@ 9	5½@ 8¼
Potatoes—Carters..	℘ bbl..	2 25@ 2 50	@
Mercers........	℘ bbl..	2 00@ 2 25	@
Onions—Reds......	℘ bbl..	1 50@ 1 75	@
White..........	℘ bbl..	2 00@ 2 50	@
Apples..............	℘ bbl..	1 50@ 3 50	@

We omit quotation of Potatoes and Onions, as the new crops now in have settled upon no standard price as yet; the rates change from day to day with the variations in the receipts.

Beef cattle have come in quite freely, mostly from the West, and chiefly from Ohio, Illinois and Indiana. The City receipts for four weeks, ending July 23, were 14,906, or an average of 3,725 a week. This is an excess, even during the hot weather, of 500 a week over the weekly average for 1855. Better times, however, have called for a larger amount of meat for consumption, than at the same period last year. For the corresponding four weeks last year the receipts of beeves were 11,128, showing an excess this year of 3,778, or 944 a week. These larger receipts have kept beef cattle at a pretty low figure during the month, though they closed a little more firm. On Wednesday, July 23, the prices ranged at Forty-fourth street: Premium cattle 10c. a10¼c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 9½c.a9¾c.; Medium quality, 8¾c.a 9¼c.; Poor quality, 8c.a8½c.; Poorest quality 7½c.a8c.; General selling prices, 8¾c.a 9¾c. Average of all sales about 9c.a9¼c.

Sheep have been abundant, but with a demand sufficient to keep prices high. The receipts of Sheep and Lambs for 4 weeks, ending July 23, were 45,464 or a weekly average of 11,366; the weekly average for 1855 was 10,940.

THE WEATHER.—Our weather notes condensed, read: June 28, 29, 30, clear and warm; thermometer at 98° on 29th. July 1, 2, 3, clear, warm and dry; 4, showery; 5, warm and pleasant; 6, showers, hail in some places; 7, fair, rain in evening; 8, 9, showery A. M., and pleasant P. M.; 10, cloudy A. M., clear P. M.; 11, clear and fine, rain at night; 12, rain until noon, clear P. M.; 13, showery; 14, 15, 16, clear and warm; 17, 18, very warm, 98° and 99° in shade; 19, 20, 21, clear, cooler weather; 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, clear, hot and dry; Sunday 27, thermometer at 99° and 100° in shade. Rain much wanted.

From the above it will be noticed that after a few days of hot weather, we had frequent showers from the 4th to the 13th inclusive. Hay-making was considerably retarded and fears of another wet harvest season were entertained. On the 14th it cleared up, and continued to grow warmer until the 18th, when the thermometer went up to 98°, and in some places hereabouts to 100° in the shade. During this time corn shot upward with surprising rapidity. The next three days of cool weather was not cold enough to check its growth. Since the 22d the heat has increased from day to day, and almost everything is suffering from drouth. If this weather continues, corn will be materially checked and pasturage will be scarce. We see the corn leaves are already beginning to curl on fields not deeply tilled. Those who have provided a plot of corn or millet for feed will now "find their money in it."

P. S., July 29.—The above was written last evening. We hear by telegraph this morning of extensive rains in different parts of the country yesterday, and at the hour we go to press (9 A. M.) a heavy rain has just commenced.

NO IRREGULARITY IN MAILING.

The Agriculturist is *invariably* mailed one day before the beginning of the month. If the paper is late in reaching subscribers, the fault is with the mails, not with us. Careful MEN, and not boys, are employed to write wrappers, so that there shall be no mistakes.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

When the Volume will close—Back Numbers—Extra Copies for Friends—Back Volumes, &c.

We have hitherto preferred to have our Volume commence in Autumn, at the season of the Agricultural Exhibitions, but we find a general desire to have this period correspond with the year. In accordance therewith, we shall continue this Volume until December, making 15 monthly numbers in Volume XV, instead of 12. A full index will be given with the December Issue.

By this arrangement Volume XVI, will commence on January 1st, 1857, and close with that year.

An unexpected large increase of new Subscribers exhausted all of the Extra copies printed for January, February, March and April, and many hundreds more than we could furnish were called for.

Very large extra editions of the May, and June issues were printed, so that we shall be able to supply all who may call for them, either for themselves or friends. We have also on hand a number of copies for October, November and December, 1855—(that is Nos. 1, 2, and 3, of the present Volume.) Those who subscribed in January, can complete the present Volume, that is get the numbers for October, November, and December, by sending 25 cents, or 8 postage stamps

New Subscribers can begin with the May or June numbers when desired.

Any back numbers on hand will be mailed post-paid to any address given, on the reception of 3 postage stamps (nine cents).

☞ Are there not many of our present readers who would esteem it a pleasure to send the American Agriculturist for a year to some neighbor, or to a distant relative or friend? A dollar will often furnish a most acceptable continuous gift, when sent in this way. Scarcely a week or even a day passes in which we do not receive a subscription of this kind. When the paper is so sent we enclose a receipted bill with the first number forwarded, noting upon it the name of the person from whom the money was received. 114—tf

Every Reader will please notice the advertisement descriptive of Mr. SEARS' PICTORIAL FAMILY BIBLE, and send for the Printed Catalogue of all our Illustrated Works.

☞ To the UNINITIATED in the great art of selling Books, we would say that we present a scheme for money making which is far better than all the gold mines of California and Australia.

☞ Any person wishing to embark in the enterprise, will risk little by sending to the Publisher $25, for which he will receive, sample copies of the various works, (at wholesale prices) carefully boxed, insured and directed, affording a very liberal per centage to the Agent for his trouble. With these he will soon be able to ascertain the most saleable and order accordingly. Address (post-paid) ROBERT SEARS, Publisher, No. 181 William-street, New-York. 115n

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):
Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.
No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.
By the column or half column, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.
☞ Business Notices 20 cents a line.

No. 140!

NO ONE WHO HAS A HOUSE TO

build, a Garden to make, a Tree to plant, or a Drive to lay out, should be without this work:

DOWNING'S LANDSCAPE GARDENING AND RURAL ARCHITECTURE.

This is DOWNING'S best and most comprehensive work, and more than all other causes, has contributed to the elevation of American taste for Rural Architecture and Landscape Gardening. It contains the fullest and most reliable catalogue of Ornamental Trees suitable for American soil and climate, with a description of the habits and landscape effect of each. Beautifully and expensively illustrated. Price $3 50.

C. M. SAXTON & Co., Publishers,
115n82 No. 140 Fulton-st., New-York.

TO NURSEREYMEN AND DEALERS IN TREES.

The Subscribers beg leave to announce that their wholesale priced catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c., for the Autumn of 1855, is now ready and will be sent free to all applicants who enclose a stamp.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
Mount Hope Nurseries,
July 15th, 1856, 115n76 Rochester, N. Y.

LAWTON BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

The Subscribers announce to their friends and customers that they have now

OVER SIX ACRES
of the
GENUINE LAWTON
BLACKBERRY PLANTS

under cultivation, and in good condition.

They are therefore prepared to fill large orders the coming FALL and the following SPRING.

PRICES.

$25	per	Hundred plants.
$12 50	per	Fifty plants.
$5	per	Dozen plants.
$2 50	per	Half dozen plants.

N. B. All plants ordered of us will be TAKEN up and PACKED with the GREATEST CARE; and UNDER OUR OWN PERSONAL SUPERVISION.

Of the MANY THOUSANDS sent out by us last year we have heard very few instances of failure, notwithstanding that they have been forwarded to EVERY PART OF THE COUNTRY, and the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Printed directions for setting and cultivating are sent with every package.

GEORGE SEYMOUR & CO.,
South Norwalk, Conn.

RASPBERRY PLANTS.

PURE RED ANTWERP OR NORTH RIVER VARIETY.

The Subscriber has a few thousand SUPERIOR PLANTS, of the above variety, which he will dispose of at the rate of $4 per hundred or $30 per thousand for the large size. Small plants at half the above prices.

SAMUEL SEYMOUR,
115-117n81 South Norwalk, Conn.

BUCKWHEAT SEED;

TURNIP SEED;

GARDEN, FIELD and FLOWER SEEDS.

—A large supply of the most desirable varieties of Garden Seeds; a choice and good supply of Flower Seeds; and Grass Seeds of all kinds. Field Seeds—Wheat, Oats, Corn, Barley, &c.

We take great care to have all our seeds fresh and best of their kinds, and offer them for sale at wholesale or retail on most favorable terms.

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

TURNIP SEED

We are now prepared to furnish the following sorts, which have given such general satisfaction for past years:

SKIVING'S IMPROVED RUTA BAGA,	50c per pound
PURPLE TOP RUTA BAGA,	50c per pound.
LARGE WHITE FLAT OR GLOBE DO.	50c per pound.
LARGE WHITE NORFOLK,	50c per pound.
EARLY WHITE STONE,	75c per pound.
YELLOW ABERDEEN,	75c per pound
YELLOW STONE,	75c per pound.

And at reduced rates in large quanties.

JAMES M. THORBURN & CO.
114-115n72 No. 15 John-street New York.

PORTABLE CIDER MILL AND PRESS.

—This very desirable and approved machine I am now manufacturing in the best manner. It will make more cider than any other press with a given quantity of apples, and in a given time. The cider made from it is of the best quality. Cider can be made with this mill when, and in quantities as required. It is also useful for pressing currants, berries, cheese, butter, &c. For sale by R. L. ALLEN, No. 189 and 191 Water-st.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS

PRICES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1856.

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING. A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st, New-York,
111—tfn41 or at New-Rochelle, N. Y

NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.—

Genuine Plants from the Original stock, deliverable in November, March or April, for sale by ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
95—116n1212N14 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

INGERSOLL'S IMPROVED, PORTABLE,

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES,

A Silver Medal for which was awarded at the late Fair of the American Institute; also, at the Fairfield County Fair, in Conn.

This Press combines *greater power and durability, requires less labor, occupies less space, and costs less money* than any other Machine for baling Hay or Cotton, ever offered to the public.

And on account of its CHEAPNESS, COMPACTNESS, PORTABILITY and GREAT POWER, it is exactly adapted to the wants and means of every farmer, and it is believed to be far superior, in every respect, to any other machine of the kind now manufactured.

The *Scientific American* of April 5, 1856, says of it:

"It will be observed that this press is extremely simple and cheap in its construction, while at the same time it is strong and powerful; it is also very compact and convenient, readily moved from place to place, &c. It may be employed for pressing cotton and other substances, with the same facility as hay. We regard it as a very excellent improvement."

The great inconvenience and annual expense of wear and breakage in the use of the *Roller*, *Ratchet*, Rope and Chain, is entirely obviated in this invention.

We have numerous letters from those who have seen and used these presses during the past season, similar to the following from Wm. Thompson, Esq., South Londonderry, Vt., who writes Feb. 8, 1856, as follows:

"*Gentlemen*:—I think your Press, with the improvement you have made recently, will exceed anything of the kind yet got up, for it will press more in a day, with only two hands to work it, and do it easier, than any other press in New-England."

By the use of this Press, the farmer who resides far inland, and who has been prevented from transporting his hay to market on account of its great bulk, may so far reduce the cost of transportation, by compressing the hay into solid and compact bales, as to make this valuable product one of the most profitable articles of farm culture.

☞ The smallest size will give a pressure of *eight to ten tons*, and a bale of hay can be pressed in about *one minute*. The Presses can readily be made of ANY SIZE or SHAPE desired. The regular sizes now made at the factory are:

Size No. 1, designed to make a bale of Hay, weighing from 175 to 200 lbs. Price $50.

Size No. 2, designed to make a bale of Hay, weighing from 300 to 350 lbs. Price $75.

Size No. 3 is of immense power and strength, and is designed more especially for HEMP, FLAX or HAY for shipping to distant ports, or where great compactness is required. Weight of bale 350 lbs. Price $125.

TOBACCO PRESS PRICE $125.

This press is also very strong and heavily ironed, possessing great power, occupying but little room, and adapted to pressing tobacco into the hogshead without the loss of time and labor common to the *Screw Press*. The cask sets on the pressing platform and is *pressed up* against a suitable head piece; then lowered, filled and pressed again, and so on until the cask is full. This is accomplished with great facility and convenience, and may be done with two hands. The portability, the small space occupied, and the low price of this Press, are advantages which cannot fail to meet with the approval of planters, and a large sale throughout the tobacco-growing States.

These Presses are so *compact*, that they are sent by ship, canal or railroad, most conveniently and in the best order without being taken to pieces; thus saving expense to the purchaser.

This Improvement, combining the principle of a *continuous lifting power*, is at once very great, very compact and very cheap; being much quicker, and in many applications more convenient than the screw, and we are prepared to furnish it on short notice, combining more or less power, for *Cider Mill Presses, Cheese Presses, Oil Cake, Cloth or Paper* and also for *raising* vessels, *moving* buildings, PULLING STUMPS, &c.

The expense of Machines, of course, will be in proportion to the *amount of power* required for use. The license for any of the States will be sold separately if desired, for the purposes herein specified. Persons wishing to engage in making and selling these various indispensable Machines, will find, on application to this Company, a rare chance for an investment.

Presses on hand and orders filled for any size, without delay. Address

FARMERS' & MECHANICS' MANUFACTURING CO.,
Green Point, Kings Co., L. I.

N. B.—The same company are manufacturing INGERSOLL'S IMPROVED, PORTABLE HAND-POWER MACHINES, for *Sawing down Trees, Sawing off Logs, &c., &c.*, to which the particular attention of the Public is called. 115n83.

FAN MILLS AND CORN SHELLERS.

Allen's celebrated Fan Mills, the best in use, of a variety of sizes—made when desired extra heavy with pulley for horse power. Also Grant's superior patent Fan Mill.

Corn Shellers of a variety of patterns for hand or horse power. For sale by

R. L. ALLEN, No. 189 and 191 Water-st.

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught

of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasonable price R. L. ALLEN 189 Water-st

---

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-

York, offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf PEAR, CHERRIES, PEACHES, PLUMS, and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—116

TO PUBLISHERS, EDITORS, &C.—

WANTED—By a young man of good scientific and practical education, a situation as

EDITOR OR ASSISTANT EDITOR,
of a weekly or monthly
AGRICULTURAL PAPER
of good standing. A
MODERATE SALARY

—which will be increased if the circulation of the work admits of it—is all that is required.

Specimens of composition sent and the best of references procured by applying to G. T. HAMMOND, "Hillside Farm," Farmingdale Post-office, Long Island. 113-115n62

THE

The WATER-CURE JOURNAL—devoted to Physiology, Hydropathy, and the Laws of Life and Health—with Engravings illustrating the Human System—A Guide to Health and Longevity. Published monthly at $1 a year by FOWLER AND WELLS, 308 Broadway, New York.

GOOD HEALTH IS OUR GREAT WANT.—We can obtain it only by a knowledge of the Laws of Life and the Causes of Disease. All subjects connected with Diet, Exercise, Bathing, Cleanliness, Ventilation, Dwellings, Clothing, Occupation, &c., are clearly presented in the WATER-CURE Journal. Hydropathy is fully explained and applied to all known diseases. Water-Cure is not equaled by any other mode of treatment in those complaints peculiar to Women. Particular directions are given for the treatment of ordinary cases at HOME, so that all may apply it. The Journal is designed for the "People." Believing Health to be the basis of all happiness, we rely on the friends of good Health to place a copy of the Water-Cure Journal in every family in the United States. Single Copy $1 a year; Five Copies, $4; Ten Copies, $7. Now is the time to subscribe. Please address FOWLER AND WELLS, No. 308 Broadway, N. Y.

114-115n71

THE BEST BOOK FOR AGENTS!

TO PERSONS OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.

An elegant Gift for a Father to present to his Family.

☞ Send for One Copy and try it among your friends. ☜

WANTED—AGENTS TO CIRCULATE

SEARS' LARGE TYPE QUARTO BIBLE,

For Family Use, entitled

THE PEOPLES' PICTORIAL DOMESTIC BIBLE.

This useful Book is destined, if we can form an opinion from the Notices of the press, to have an unprecedented circulation in every section of our wide-spread continent, and to form a distinct era in the sale of our works. It will, no doubt, in a few years become THE FAMILY BIBLE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

☞ The most liberal remuneration will be allowed to all persons who may be pleased to procure subscribers to the above. From 50 to 100 copies may easily be circulated and sold in each of the principal cities and towns of the Union. IT WILL BE SOLD BY SUBSCRIPTION ONLY.

☞ Application should be made at once, as the field will be soon occupied.

☞ Persons wishing to act as Agents, and do a safe business, can send for a Specimen copy.

☞ On receipt of the established price, Six Dollars, the PICTORIAL FAMILY BIBLE, with a well bound Subscription Book, will be carefully boxed, and forwarded per express, at our risk and expense, to any central town or village in the United States, excepting those of California, Oregon and Texas.

☞ Register your Letters and your Money will come safe.

☞ Orders respectfully solicited. For further particulars, address the subscriber (post paid.)

ROBERT SEARS,
No. 181 William-street, New-York.

HORSE POWERS AND THRESHERS.

—I have for sale the best and most approved made in the United States, viz:

Allen's celebrated one horse endless chain power.
Emery's Patent do do do
Allen's celebrated two do do do
Emery's patent two do do do
Trimble's one to four horse iron circular power.
Warren's do do do do
Eddy's or Tasslin's superior wood and wrought iron one to six horse circular power.
Hall's or Pitts one to eight horse iron circular power, much used in California and other Western States.

THRESHERS.

Allen's or Emery's Threshers with or without Separators.
Eddy's Iron Cylinder Threshers.
Hall's or Pitts and other make Threshers and Cleaners combined, for two to eight horses.

R. L. ALLEN, Nos. 189 and 191 Water st.

FIVE DIPLOMAS AND TWO PREMIUMS AWARDED IN 1855.

CANS MADE BY

NEW DOUBLE PATENT PROCESS,

RENDERING LEAKAGE IMPOSSIBLE.

Above is a representation of a Canister, with a patent attachment, designed for preserving fruits and vegetables of all kinds in a perfectly fresh state, with their natural shape, color, and flavor. It is termed the

"SELF-SEALING CAN,"

and so called because soldering is dispensed with in closing up the aperture of the can, and because by the simple turning of a cap, the outward atmosphere is wholly excluded.

With these cans, and directions given with them, such fruits as Apples, Pears, Peaches, Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, &c, &c. and such vegetables as Tomatoes, Green Peas, Green Corn, Beans, and indeed, every species of either, may be preserved for years in their fresh state, without the addition of salt, sugar, or acid, or any other preservative property whatever.

Many of these fruits decay and go to waste upon the trees, bushes, and market places. Now they may be

SAVED AND USED

out of their season, for table or pastry purposes.

With this Canister they can be preserved economically; as sugar and spirits may be dispensed with.

Health is greatly promoted by the free use of

FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES,

while, on the contrary, digestion is greatly impeded, and the digestive organs impaired, by the use of preserved fruits so completely saturated with sugar as are the ordinary sweetmeats preserved by families.

These cans may be used year after year. Full directions for preserving fruit and vegetables accompany the cans. The

MODE IS SO SIMPLE

that an ordinary house-servant, or child ten years of age, need make no error.

A little wrench should be purchased for screwing down the cover tightly, thereby making a perfect job.

N. B.—The

"GENUINE SELF-SEALING CANS"

have cast in letters, upon the top of the cap,

"SPRATT'S PATENT,"

"Wells & Provost, Proprietors, New York."

☞ All the cans are guaranteed to answer

FULLY AND PERFECTLY

the purpose for which they are recommended,

PRICES.

Quart Cans,	per dozen,	$2 50
Half Gallon Cans,	do	3 50
Gallon Cans,	do	5 00
Wrenches,	do	75

WELLS & PROVOST,
Sole Proprietors.

Warehouse for the sale of the Cans, &c., No. 321 Pearl-street, near Franklin square.

☞ A Liberal Discount to Agents.

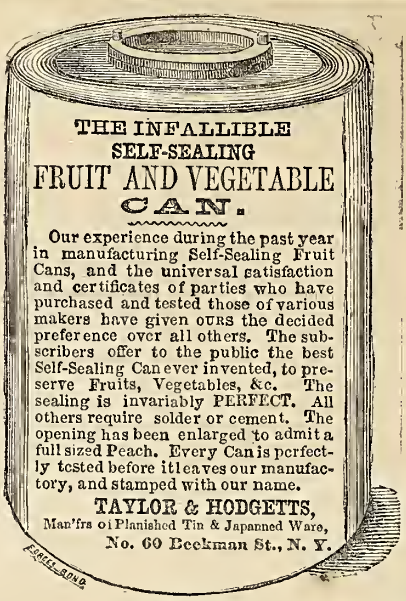
As evidence of the superiority of Spratt's Patent Can over all others, we give below a list of premiums and diplomas awarded at the fairs of the several Institutions, where they were exhibited last season in competition.

LIST OF DIPLOMAS,

AWARDED DURING 1855.

American Institute, at Crystal Palace, Oct. 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Maryland Institute, held at Baltimore, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Philadelphia Agricultural Society, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
New Jersey State Fair, at Camden, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Summit County Fair, Ohio, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
New York State Fair, Elmira, 1855, 1st Premium.
Connecticut State Fair, Hartford, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.

n77—115-116



THE INFALLIBLE
SELF-SEALING

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CAN.

Our experience during the past year in manufacturing Self-Sealing Fruit Cans, and the universal satisfaction and certificates of parties who have purchased and tested those of various makers have given OURS the decided preference over all others. The subscribers offer to the public the best Self-Sealing Can ever invented, to preserve Fruits, Vegetables, &c. The sealing is invariably PERFECT. All others require solder or cement. The opening has been enlarged to admit a full sized Peach. Every Can is perfectly tested before it leaves our manufactory, and stamped with our name.

TAYLOR & HODGETTS,
Man'frs of Planished Tin & Japanned Ware,
No. 60 Beekman St., N. Y.

PRICE LIST.

	Per dozen.		Per dozen.
Quart Cans,	$2 50	Funnels,	$1 00
3 Pint Cans,	3 00	Wrenches,	75
Half-gallon Cans,	3 50	Tops and Screws for sale by the dozen or gross.	
Gallon Cans,	4 50		

115-n78

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes,	Picks,	Shovels,
Spades,	Wheelbarrows,	Harrows,
Cultivators,	Road-Scrapers,	Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills,	Garden Engines.	

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers,	Saw Machines,	Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines,	Scales,	Gin Gear.
Apple Parers,	Rakes,	Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks,	Belting for Machinery, &c.	

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

HARVESTING TOOLS.—GRANT'S, HARRIS', WILCOX'S, and other superior GRAIN CRADLES.

GRASS and LAWN SCYTHES of all the most approved Manufacturers.

SCYTHE SNEATHS, both wood and iron—superior articles
HORSE and HAND HAY RAKES, of every variety.
WHETSTONES and SCYTHE RIFLES.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water st., New-York

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

HARROWS; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,

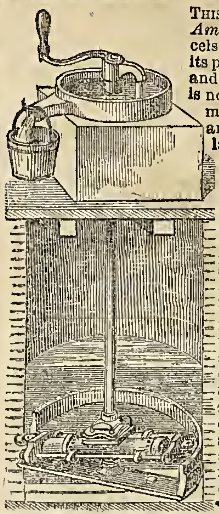
For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 78-130

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful sciences Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No. 119 Washington-st., Boston. Sample copies sent when ordered

---

Lindsey's Double-Acting ROTARY FORCE PUMP.



THIS pump has just been patented in *America* and *England*, and far excels any pump heretofore invented; its peculiarities are *simplicity, power*, and *cheapness*. Its simplicity; there is nothing about it but iron and cast metal, and it can be taken apart and put up by any one, and will last for an age. It has the power to raise water *hundreds of feet*, with the extra expense of $3 and the price of pipe. Water rises in it by hand 100 feet per minute! For cheapness; a No. 1. pump (for all ordinary purposes) complete, and fifty feet of pipe, costs but $30! The handle at the top, turns the pipe and pump, and every revolution fills the cylinder twice, affording an abundant supply of water with the least possible expense and labor. It is peculiarly adapted to *deep wells, rail road stations, salt works, mining and manufacturing purposes*. Wherever it is introduced, the old force, suction and chain pumps will disappear. Practical and scientific men pronounce it as without an equal, for all that is here claimed for it. The *Scientific American*, after seeing it in operation, says: "*This pump is very simple in construction, not liable to get out of order, durable, easily operated and economical; we regard it as an excellent improvement.*" Circulars with an accurate drawing and full description sent free of charge to all parts of the country. No. 1, has a one inch pipe; No. 2, 1¼ inches; No. 3, 1½ inches; and the prices $30, $42, $54; the No. 2 and 3 are designed for *very deep wells, railroad stations, &c.* where much water is required. The subscriber is the general agent for the sale of these pumps to all parts of the world, and *exclusive agent for* NEW YORK. Orders must be accompanied by the *cash*, and should be explicit as to the kind of pump wanted, depth of well, shipping address, &c. They will meet prompt attention. A pump and pipe weighs about 170 lbs. No charge for shipping or cartage. Wells over 50 feet should have extra gearing, which costs $3.

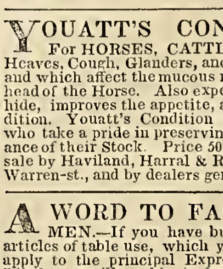
JAMES M. EDNEY,
Com. Merchant, 56 John St. N. Y.
For sale by H. LINDSEY, Inventor, Asheville, N. C.
113—118n69

GRENOBLE HOSE.—A superior Hose, manufactured of the finest Hemp—a cheap and excellent substitute for Leather and Gutta Percha. It is especially recommended to Planters, Nurserymen, Fire Companies, Steamboats, Manufactories, Dwellings, &c. It costs less than half the price of leather, is lighter, stands as much pressure, is as durable, and is not subjected for its preservation to the expense of oiling or greasing, neither is it injured by frost.

For sale, and orders for importation received in sizes from 1 to 7 inches in diameter, by CHARLES LENZMANN, 54 Cedar-st., New-York, where certificates of its superior qualities can be examined, from Alfred Carson, Esq., Chief Engineer of the New-York Fire Department; from James McFarlan, Esq., Chief Engineer of the Union Ferry Co., and also from official authorities of some of the large cities of Europe. —112n59

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,

(QUEENS PATENT,)



THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boilermakers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—116n1190N8

YOUATT'S CONDITION POWDERS, For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP and SWINE—cures Heaves, Cough, Glanders, and all diseases resulting from Colds, and which affect the mucous membrane of the lungs, throat and head of the Horse. Also expels Botts and Worms, loosens the hide, improves the appetite, and keeps the animal in good condition. Youatt's Condition Powders are recommended to all who take a pride in preserving the good health and fine appearance of their Stock. Price 50 cents a package. Sold at wholesale by Haviland, Harral & Risley, Wholesale Druggists, No. 39 Warren-st., and by dealers generally. 114-119u70

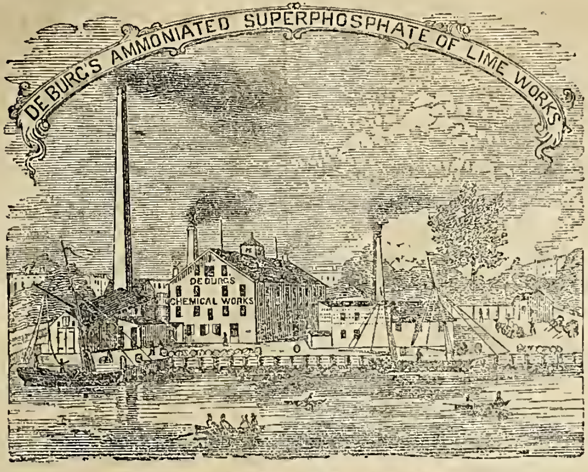
A WORD TO FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN.—If you have butter, poultry, eggs, or any other articles of table use, which you will sell low for cash, please apply to the principal Express Agent in your neighborhood. Likely, we will put him in funds to buy of you if we can agree upon prices.

We are in want of half a tun of nice turkeys, chickens and geese, every week, at our Express Produce Store, No. 33 Broadway. A tun or two of first rate table butter, upon consignment, to sell to consumers would be very acceptable.

Commission for effecting sales, for cash, five per cent, and NO OTHER CHARGES WHATEVER.

A. L. STIMSON,
Agent for the Sale of Farmers' Produce, and the purchase of Goods ordered by Express, No. 33 Broadway, New-York.

REFERENCES—The American Express Company; Wells, Butterfield & Co.; the Adams Express Company; the National Express Company; Thompson & Co.'s Express; and Cheney, Fiske & Co.'s. 110tfn32


DEBURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DEBURGS
CHEMICAL WORKS

DeBURG'S
AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my prsposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to state that many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feb. 1st(orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City.

CASH PRICE, $50 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

C. B. DeBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I.
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.

109—116n

PERUVIAN GUANO—*At lowest market prices*, wholesale and retail—with Government weight and brand on each bag, for sale at the AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT AND SEED Warehouse of

R. L. ALLEN,
Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

ALLEN'S CELEBRATED MOWING MACHINE
CANNOT CLOG.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Super-phosphate of Lime, &c,

BONE DUST, ground and sawings.
Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For sale by

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY,' and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,

C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept* 4, 1855.

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation. (the plants which abound in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address,

WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

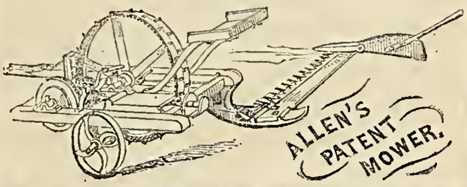
N. B.—Plants will be furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs. 111—tfn42

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz: Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—DRAINING and IRRIGATION in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines, wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission.

SHIPMAN & HAMMOND,
111—121n48 · No. 63 Trinity Buildings. 111 Broadway, N, Y

ALLEN'S MOWER AND REAPER,
THE BEST IN THE UNITED STATES.

To be sure of a Machine you should order at once.



We give a few from more than one hundred testimonials, copies of which can be had on application.

R. L. ALLEN, N. Y.—I have used Allen's Mower for two seasons, and have cut 70 to 80 tons fodder each season. We have used it in light and heavy grass, over rough and level surface, in wet and dry. The machine has succeeded admirably. It has not cost me $2 in two years. It is the best and most perfect mower I ever saw work, being of easy draught, and requiring no more than ordinary walk of horses to do the work well, cutting the grass as low and more level than any hand-mowing. I can cut with ease 12 acres in a day; and, with two horses, weighing 2,100 pounds, (the two,) can follow it day after day. I should like to see any improvement that may come along; but if I could not get such another as Allen's, I would not part with it for $1,000—indeed, for any money. I have had numbers of farmers see my mower work, and they all admit it is the best they ever saw work.

JOHN GILES.
Woodstock, Conn., Oct. 25, 1855.

R. L. ALLEN, Sir:—I do not think a better mowing machine can be made than your Allen's Improved. I cut 19 tons of hay off 8 acres with it, and I was only four hours cutting it. Much of the grass was badly lodged and tangled; indeed, I had no idea that a mowing machine would work in it at all. The grass was cut in first-rate style, and no clogging. I have cut, in all, 60 acres, without a cent cost for repairs. It is easy of draught to the horses, and they can be walked slow or quick. It is compact and durable, and easily managed. I saw it worked at Flushing, in June last, when four different patent mowers were worked beside it. I was certainly impartial in my desire to choose the best machine; and I chose yours, (Allens,) as none of them could compare with it in the qualities I have named.

Patchogue, L. I., Nov. 10, 1855. AUSTIN ROE.

R. L. ALLEN, N. Y., Sir:—I can highly recommend your Allen Mower. It is easy draught for a pair of horses. I have used it in very heavy and lodged grass; it cut without clogging, and better than could be done with a scythe. It is durable, compact, and easily managed.

FROST HORTON,
Of the firm of Minor & Horton.
Peekskill, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1855.

KETCHUM'S MOWER AND MOWER AND REAPER.

MANNY'S	Mower	and Mower	and Reaper.
HUSSEY'S	do.	do.	do.
McCORMICK'S	do.	do.	do.
ATKINS'	do.	do.	do.
ALLEN'S	do	do.	do.

For sale by

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL
OVER TWO MILLION OF ACRES
OF
FARMING LANDS,
IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,
ON LONG CREDIT AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and include some of the richest and most fertile prairies in the State, interspersed here and there with magnificent groves of oak and other timber. The road extends from Chicago, on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the northwest extreme of the State, and as all the lands lie within fifteen miles on each side of this road, ready and cheap means are afforded by it for transporting the products of the lands to any of those points, and from thence to Eastern and Southern markets. Moreover, the rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages, along the line, and the great increase in population by immigration, etc., afford a substantial and growing home demand for farm produce.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken sod, usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from $2 to $2 50 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern market, and to Cairo for the Southern. The larger yield on the cheap lands of Illinois over the high-priced lands in the Eastern and Middle States, is known to be much more than sufficient to pay the difference of transportation to the Eastern market.

Bituminous coal is mined at several points along the road, and is a cheap and desirable fuel. It can be delivered at several points along the road at $1 50 to $4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord.

Those who think of settling in Iowa or Minnesota, should bear in mind, that lands there of any value, along the water courses, and for many miles inland, have been disposed of—that for those located in the interior, there are no conveniences for transporting the produce to market, railroads not have been introduced there. That to send the produce of these lands one or two hundred miles by wagon to market, would cost much more than the expense of cultivating them; and hence, Government lands thus situated, at $1 25 per acre, are not so good investments as the land of this Company at the prices fixed.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road, and others with which it connects, the operation, of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from $5 to $25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made during the year 1856, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, $150 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

Special arrangements with dealers can be made to supply those purchasing the Company's lands with fencing materials, agricultural tools, and an outfit of provisions in any quantity, at the lowest wholesale prices.

It is believed that the price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter, in English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.

Office, up to the 1st of May, No. 52 Michigan Avenue, Chicago. Ill. After that date, in the new stone Passenger Depot, foot of South Water-street. 112—117n51

THE SCARS STILL THERE.

A father whose son was addicted to some vicious propensities, bade the boy to drive a nail into a certain post whenever he committed a certain fault, and agreed that a nail should be drawn out whenever he corrected an error. In the course of time the post was completely filled with nails.

The youth became alarmed at the extent of his indiscretions and set about reforming himself. One by one the nails were drawn out, the delighted father commended him for his noble, self-denying heroism, in freeing himself from his faults.

"They are all drawn out," said the parent.

The boy looked sad, and there was a whole volume of practical wisdom in his sadness. With a heavy heart he replied:

"True, father; but the scars are still there."

Parents who would have their children grow sound and healthy characters, must sow the seed at the fireside. Charitable associations can reform the man, and perhaps, make a useful member of society; but, alas! the scars are there! The reformed drunkard, gambler and thief is only the wreck of the man he once was, he is covered with scars—dishonorable scars—which will disfigure his character as long as he shall live.

Little Blossoms for Heaven.—Others beside the aged are leaving the cares of earth for the rest and blessedness of heaven; those who have scarcely looked beyond the rose-tinted boundary of infancy, whose eyes have never been wet by tears of sorrow or regret; whose hearts have never swelled with disappointment. Little blossoms, who linger lovingly for a few brief years on the threshold of Time, and of whom we think, even while worshipping their beauty and innocence are 'passing away!'

Echo Answering Questions.—What cry is the greatest terrifier?—"fire!"

What must be done to conduct a newspaper right?—"write!"

Speaking of the eastern war, one was asked what will be the expense?—"pence!"

What's the best course to steer for a magistrate?—"straight!"

What's necessary for a farmer to assist him?—"system!"

What's the poorest thing to settle the slavery confusion?—"fusion!"

What would give a blind man the greatest delight?—"light!"

What's the best council given by a justice of the peace?—"peace!"

Who commits the greatest abominations?—"nations!"

What are some women's chief exercise?—"sighs!"

Crafty men say nothing in dangerous times. The lion called the sheep to ask her if his breath was pleasant. She said, "Aye." He bit off her head for a fool. He called the wolf and asked him. He said, "No." He tore him to pieces for a flatterer. At last he called the fox and asked him. "Truly," said the latter, "I have caught a cold and can not smell."

For sea sickness—stay at home.
For drunkenness—drink cold water.
For accidents—keep out of danger.
To keep out of Jail—pay your debts.
To please all—mind your own business.

"Why is it," asked a Frenchman of a Switzer, "that you Swiss always fight for money, while we French fight only for honor?" "I suppose," answered the Switzer, "that each fight for what they most lack."

Why are the ladies of the present day like the lilies of Scripture? Because they "toil not, neither do they spin; yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of them."

Providence is like a curious piece of tapestry, made of a thousand shreds, which single, appear useless, but together they represent a beautiful history.—*Flavel.*

INDEX.

Ants, Trapping................[Illustrated] Editorial..249
Apple-worm or Codling Moth..............Editorial..254
Barn Cellars..............................Com..251
Blackberry, Lawton, described [Illustrated] Editorial..257
" " effects of cold on..........Com..258
Buckwheat as a green crop................Editorial..244
" with Corn.......................Editorial..250
Cabbage, Large Jersey......................Com..247
Calendar of Operations..................Editorial..242
Cattle—Lord Vanc Tempest............[Illustrated]..252
Curculio smoked out at last..........................256
Currants—Improved......................Editorial..256
Drowning or Strangled Persons, restoring..Editorial..246
Echo answering questions....................Item..264
Editor's farm notes.......................Editorial..249
Exhibitions, Agricultural for 1856............Table..247
Fish applied to growing crops..............Editorial..243
Fruit fallen, take care of......... ... .Item..254
Genealogical..............................Editorial..259
Grass and grain—cutting early..............Editorial..253
Growing Corn—a lesson.....................Editorial..249
Hair Oil for Horses.........................Extract..248
Jethro Tull................................Editorial..245
Kitchen Garden, Things still to be sown....Editorial..259
Log Houses.................................Extract..247
Mailing—not irregular.......................Item..260
Mowing-machines—trying draft of.... ....Editorial..245
Peach Orchard, a Long Island......... ...Editorial..250
Preserving fruits—Practical Hints..........Editorial..255
Prices, Weather &c., Review of..........Editorial..260
Purslain.................... ....Editorial..256
Raspberries—a couple of "Patches".......Editorial..258
Records Important to Farmers................Com..251
Salt to Destroy Worms......................Extract..253
Salting Hay and Salting Stock.............Editorial..252
Scars still there...........................Extract..264
Seeds—a short chapter on...................Extract..259
Silvering Fluids and Powders.......... ..Editorial..251
Squash Bug—Description and Remedies...Editorial..256
Steam Plow wanted on the Praries.........Editorial..247
Strawberry Beds—five thousand.........Editorial..253
Tim Bunker on "Moss Bunkers"..........Editorial..248
Tomatoes—supporting and shortening in...Editorial..256
Turnips—sow still..........................Editorial..249
Weeds in Pavements, &c.—destroying.....Editorial..259
Wisconsin versus Ohio, &c.................Editorial..248
Wheat Insects..............................Editorial..244
WORK FOR THE MONTH.............Editorial..241

Business Notices.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

☞ **Back Numbers and Back Volumes.**—We have no more of these to spare, previous to Vol. XII—our entire extra edition up to that time having been exhausted.

Of Vols. XII, XIII and XIV, we have several sets, which will be furnished so long as they last, at $1, unbound, or $1 50, neatly bound in muslin.

☞ Back numbers of the present volume can only be supplied from May. Of the May, June and July numbers we have printed a very large extra edition,—probably enough to meet all demands.

American Agriculturist.
FIFTEENTH VOLUME
A Leading and Standard Agricultural Journal,

devoted to the development and improvement of every department of Soil Culture, and adapted equally to the circumstances and wants of those who cultivate small plots of ground or large farms.

It is designed to collect and communicate plain, practical, and reliable information upon the

Selection of Seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various Field and Garden Crops; Fruit Growing; Care, Treatment and Improvement of all kinds of Domestic Animals; the Construction and Embellishment of Farm Buildings; Housing, Preserving, and Marketing the Products of the Farm, Orchard, Garden and Dairy; and to the Domestic or Household labors of the Rural Home.

The proprietor of the Agriculturist—having been trained from childhood to the active labors of a large farm embracing a varied culture, and having devoted a dozen years to studying the principles lying at the foundation of improved soil culture in schools, in the field, in the laboratory, and in traveling for observation—trusts that he will be able to set before the readers of this journal such a collection of sound and practical information as will be to each a continual source of valuable knowledge.

Having no connection, directly or indirectly, with any other business whatever, and owning and controling the columns of this paper, the Editor claims to be entirely independent of all influences which, under other circumstances, might be supposed to modify or govern his opinions or teachings.

Those gentlemen whose labors have contributed so much in years past to the value of the pages of the Agriculturist, still feel a lively interest in its continued and increased prosperity, and they promise their editorial assistance. ☞ The best editorial aid to be found in the country will be continually sought for.

The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month in which it is dated.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ In addition to the above rates:

Postage to Canada	12 cents.
Postage to Europe	24 cents.
Delivered in New-York city	12 cents.

The paper is considered paid for wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st., New-York.

WEEKLY NEWS, MARKET REPORTS, &C.

By an arrangement with Messrs. Raymond, Wesley & Co, Proprietors of the New York Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly TIMES, the Editor of the Agriculturist is engaged to prepare the Agricultural Department of their papers, including the Reports of the New-York Cattle Markets, &c. The WEEKLY TIMES contains all the matter of the Daily and Semi-Weekly on these subjects, including reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world. (In answer to inquiries it should be stated that Mr. Judd's responsibility for articles in the Times extends only to the Agricultural department.

Those desiring it will be furnished by the Proprietor of the Agriculturist with the two papers combined, as follows:

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 25
Ten copies of both papers one year	17 00

Agents, &c.—Mr. C. Taber, and Mr. A. Whitman, are regularly employed in the office of the American Agriculturist. They will make occasional tours into various parts of the country, to collect notes of the practice and experience of Farmers and Gardeners; and to attend to business matters connected with subscriptions and advertisements. They will at all times carry credentials and regular receipts and other documents of the Office. Any information or assistance rendered to them will be duly appreciated by the Publisher.

Mr. Wm. Lloyd Bowers, of Providence, is our regular accredited agent for Rhode Island, and the adjacent parts of Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

Printed by R. Cunnington, 181 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Gardener, and the Planter.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 12.] NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 116.

☞ **The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor at 191 Water-st. (near Fulton).**

☞ **All Business and other letters should be addressed to** ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st.,
New-York City.

☞ Personal Letters, or those for the Editor only should be marked *Private.*

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

> " The sultry summer past, September comes,
> Soft twilight of the slow declining year,
> All mildness, soothing loneliness and peace,
> The fading season, ere the falling come,
> More sober than the buxom blooming May,
> And therefore less the favorite of the world,
> But dearest month of all to pensive minds."
> [C. WILCOX.

September ushers in a new season of the year, and calls up a new class of emotions in the heart of the husbandman. The heat of the summer is over, and its long and exhausting labor is ended. The May harvest is gathered, and the great staple crops of the farm, corn and potatoes, are rapidly hastening to maturity. There is no hurry in gathering these ; they have not to be made, like hay, while the sun shines. The farmer can now take a little longer nooning, and the evenings are perceptibly longer for reading up the Agricultural journals that have been overlooked amid the pressing duties of summer. He has time now to look at the aspects of Nature and to enjoy them.

New sounds begin to greet his ear as he misses from the wood, the meadow and the orchard, his summer favorites. The lark, the bob-o-link, the swallow, like summer friends, are off before the touch of frost upon the foliage, seeking in sunnier climes the pleasures that no more greet them under our autumn skies. We miss from the orchard the full gushing song of the robin. His notes are broken as he gives over domestic cares and becomes an epicure. He gorges himself now instead of his birdlings in the nest, and lays on fat in the plenty of harvest against the long bitter fast of winter. His epicurean habits are unfavorable to song. New classes of insects begin to make their appearance as the old die off. A dead grasshoper is here and there seen glued to some sapless grass-stalk or weed, as if he were facing the fading summer and mourning over his ephemeral joys. The key note of the insect hum is changed. It is lower and softer, preparing the mind of man for the advent of those " melancholy days, the saddest of the year."

But the eye as well as the ear takes note of the change that is now coming over the season. The woods have lost the freshness of their verdure, and in many a spot the russet and yellow begin to contrast with the green. The somber colors gain in fullness and breadth until the close of the month, when the frost begins to show its handiwork in field and forest. The orchard now drops luscious fruits from its laden boughs. Alas ! for the man who has none, but looks with curious eyes to the ripening apples, peaches and pears of his neighbor, and is obliged to read unedifying lectures to his sons on the sin of fruit-stealing by moonlight. An order to the nurseryman next month for a good supply of trees would have more influence than all his exhortations. The corn field hastens to maturity. The leaves have almost done their work, and are drying up. The kernels are hardening and glazing, and the earlier kinds are pushing the golden ears through the shrivelling husks. Happy is the man now who manured heavily and followed our suggestions in regard to thorough tillage. He has thick heavy ears upon every hill, and no heavy crop of weeds are going to seed to impede the cultivation of another year. He has a clean soil. He can afford to make

A FALL VISIT

to some of his kin, if he does not stay too long. As a rule farmers do not take time enough for social purposes. It pays every man, after the pressing summer work is over, to unbend the muscles, and to keep alive the associations and friendships of earlier years by the interchange of visits. The facilities for travel are now so great that these visits can be made with little expense and small loss of time. Formerly when one's kindred went to the far West, they were as good as buried. They hardly expected to return again ; and if we went from the East thither, it took a month or two, and cost a large sum. Now two or three days will set us down in almost any place east of the Mississippi, and thousands can visit friends in that valley to whom it would have been impracticable a dozen years ago. These visits pay we'l for the information they give an intelligent man of the different methods of husbandry. He cannot fail, if he improves his opportunities, to pick up many items of farm practice that will be exceedingly profitable to him at home. This should always be kept as a distinct object before the mind in these visits, and the information thus gathered will not only show itself at home, but in the Farmer's Club, and in the intercourse of neighbors at the fireside.

THE FALL EXHIBITIONS

will of course come in for a share of attention this month. The County Exhibitions should not only be visited, but should have the liberal contributions of every farmer. A first question should be, with the opening of the month, What can I exhibit ? Look over the premium list again, and see what prizes you can hope to win. Send up the best animals and the best products of the field and garden to the County show. Let there be an animated competition for the premiums. It will cost two or three days of time, and a little money, but both will be well spent. Take your wife and children to the exhibition, and invite all your first and second cousins to go, and let the " good time coming" be realized when the county gets together, to show up the results of their industry for the year. Take full notes of the exhibition, and learn all you can of the many new things that will be seen.

SEED CORN

should be selected this month. Many a farmer has lost ten, fifteen, twenty bushels of corn for lack of this precaution. We have had great complaint of the failure of corn to come up with the first planting. This, in most instances, was owing to taking corn from the bin to plant ; corn imperfectly ripened, or that was put up last fall before the cob was sufficiently dry. Those who selected their corn, and hung it up by the husk to cure, had sound seed that came up well. Select those ears that grow two or three upon a stalk. They may be indicated by putting down a stake by the hills, or by tying a string or strip of husk around the ear. As soon as the husk cleaves from the ear, break them off, tie them in bunches, and hang them in a dry place, where they will cure perfectly, and be ready for use next spring. This selection of seed is a matter of great importance. It not only secures a perfect seed, but one more prolific. The yield will be larger, and the farmer who follows this course will find his crops constantly improving.

SOWING WHEAT.

This should be done as early in September as possible. The young plants have time to become well established before winter, and are much less likely to be killed by the freezing and thawing. Deep, thorough tillage is also of great importance in wheat culture. We have found guano a very economical manure for this crop. (See a longer article on this subject.)

RYE EOR SOILING.

This comes earlier in the spring than al most any other plant, and for those who keep up their horses and cattle through the summer, it will be found a good crop. It will be ready for the scythe in the spring, by the time the root-bin is empty. Whether rye is sown for this purpose, or for the grain, it should be put in early.

FATTENING ANIMALS.

Do not put off this business till November. An animal will lay on fat and flesh much faster now than in cold weather. They should be kept full fed, and should have a variety of food. Pigs should have all the green corn they can eat. We have found the large sweet corn, cut up by the roots, a very profitable diet for them. They will eat leaf, stalk and ear, as clean as a cow.

HARVESTING CORN.

If you are short of fodder, and wish to make the most of your corn, cut the stalks when the spindle and a little of the stem beneath it is dry. If cured, and bound in small bundles, it makes a fodder equal to the best hay. The grain is undoubtedly diminished by this process, but what is lost in grain is made up in the increased value of the stalks. If grain is more of an object with you, cut up by the roots as soon as there is danger of a killing frost. This will give the maximum quantity of grain.

POTATOES

should be dug as soon as the vines are dead. If struck with the rot, the sooner they are out of the ground the better. We begin to hear some complaint of the rot, though potatoes in the market thus far have been of good size and quality. Do not be in haste to sell until the extent of the disease is ascertained. In storing them, keep them from the light.

TURNIPS.

Those which are cultivated in drills should have thorough tillage through this month. Stir the soil often, and keep it free from weeds. This month and the next make the turnip crop. It is not yet too late to sow the Red Strap Leaf variety. They will grow until they freeze into the soil. Sow them in any vacant spots in the garden, or where early potatoes have been taken from the field. Should the fall be wet, you will have a large return for your labor. If they fail to make bulbs large enough for use, they will make a good green crop to plow in.

CARROTS

also should have constant cultivation until the tops shade the soil and prevent the growth of weeds. Success in root culture depends very much upon subduing weeds. Not one should be left to go to seed. The eradication of weeds in old ground that has long been subject to slovenly husbandry is the most expensive part of growing roots. It costs so much to get a field into right shape for this crop, that we have thought it was better economy to keep it in roots for a succession of years, rather than to seed it down. We believe carrots can be grown, with manure enough, to secure a thousand bushels to the acre, more economically than with any less quantity of manure, and a smaller yield.

SAVE YOUR WIND-FALLS.

Some farmers leave these to rot upon the ground under the apple trees. But there is the same reason for removing them, that there is for clearing the garden and fields of weeds. Most of these apples are full of worms or the eggs of insects. It is from this cause that they have fallen prematurely. If suffered to lie upon the ground, the seed of a wonderful worm harvest will mature, and you will have work for another season. If you would have fair fruit, you must take care of these worm nurseries and crush them in the bud. If the pigs run in the orchard, they will probably keep the ground clear, and get some part of their living. If you have not this convenience, let them be picked up and given to cows and swine.

STRAWBERRY BEDS

can be prepared and planted early this month. (See the Agriculturist for August, and another page in this number.)

THE MUCK BEDS

are the foundation for good beds of everything else in the garden. If you have not an abundant supply of this article, do not fail to secure it this month. The mines can be worked to much better advantage now than later in the season. (See another page.—[Ed.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

SEPTEMBER, 1856.

[We give from month to month, besides our leading article, "Work for the Month," a Calendar of some of the more important operations in the field, garden, &c. These are adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 42°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north, earlier south. An early season, or a late one advances or retards operations, so that we shall need to revise and adapt these tables to each year.

The letters f. m. l. refer to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month.

Doubling the letters thus: ff., mm., or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

FARM.

Barn-yards—See that the autumn rains do not *leach* your manure heaps, and carry the BEST portions into the highway, or upon a neighbor's farm. Remember that a drain from the barn-yard, unless the wash is saved by a pit and muck, is a hole in the pocket.

Beans—Pull as soon as ripe, and spread or stack to dry.

Buckwheat—Cut as soon as dry, and thresh as fast as it is carted in.

Cattle for Fattening—Give extra pasturage, with a little of the corn sown for soiling, and a few pumpkins occasionally; if any old corn is left over, feed them on it now, as they will gain much faster than after cold weather sets in.

Corn—Cut and shock early, or as soon as the husks are well dried; the corn will be sweeter and heavier, and the fodder much better than if cut when perfectly ripe, after exposure to all the autumn storms. Select sound, well filled ears for seed, from stalks producing two or more ears; trace and hang them up in the crib or granary, if you wish to have no failures in next spring's planting; remembering the many complaints of last spring, and the labor of replanting. (See page 245 of August Agriculturist.)

Cows—Feed a little of the soiling corn to milch cows at night, especially where pasturage begins to fail. Pumpkins may also be fed to them with profit.

Draining wet soils—Continue until they are made the most valuable portions of the farm.

Fences—See that they are in good order, as cattle are looking for the best pasturage at this season.

Hogs should not be allowed to spend this month in idleness; when shut from the range of the fruit orchard, they should be employed in manufacturing manures; to aid in which, cart to their yards and pens potato tops, turf, loam, muck, leaves, weeds, and the scrapings from woods, mixing in a little corn for them to root after. Put swine for fattening in a yard by themselves, and give extra food.

Manures—Attend to ff., mm., ll. Collect sea-weed, muck, fish, head lands, &c., for composting, and spreading in the cow and hog yard. (See last month's directions.)

Muck Swamps are farmers mines. Continue to "dig" in them before the "rainy season sets in," that you may have a good stock for winter and spring use. It is better to keep one year's stock on hand, as exposure, and especially freezing, benefits it.

Potatoes—Dig for market as wanted; many prefer allowing those for winter use to remain till late in the season, believing that they keep better in the ground than elsewhere, and that if they decay, it saves the trouble of taking them in and removing them again.

Root Crops—Use cultivator among, to loosen the soil. Keep free from weeds.

Rye—Sow f. to m.; see article on Wheat.

Seeds—Select the best, and keep them distinct for planting.

Soiling Crops—Cut and feed out as wanted, and harvest that intended for winter use early, curing it well before putting away.

Timber—Continue to cut ff. (See last month.)

Timothy—Sow ff., if not done already.

Weeds—Gather and carry to the hog-pens both for food and manure; weeds in their green state are eagerly sought by swine.

Wheat—Prepare to sow early. (See article elsewhere.)

ORCHARD AND NURSERY.

Apples—Gather autumn varieties, and lay away in the fruit-room.

Budding may still be done ff. Loosen the bandages of early buddings, and insert fresh buds where failures have occurred.

Evergreens may be moved during this month, though we prefer to transplant them in the spring.

Fences—Keep in good order—cattle do much damage at this stage of crops, both in the orchard and nursery.

Fruit—Gather with care as it ripens; some varieties, particularly pears, are improved by picking and carrying to the house before they are fully ripe.

Grounds for nursery and orchard; prepare by manuring, plowing and subsoiling, or trenching, f. to m.

Hoe nursery rows and seed beds; do not

allow the weeds to overrun them as the season draws to a close.

Insects—Continue to entrap.

Peach Trees—Bud close to the ground, ff. to m.

Pears—Gather autumn varieties carefully by hand before they become soft, and spread them on shelves in the fruit room or chamber to ripen; if the finer kinds, which become soft like the Bartlett, are to be taken at a distance to market, it is better to send them while a little hard, and have them ripen in the dealer's care, otherwise they are injured by transportation.

Plow and cultivate in nursery rows, taking care not to injure or bark the trees. Also begin to plow ground for next year's planting.

Pruning—Complete for this season, ff. paring the surface smooth and close to the body of the tree or limb.

Seed-beds—Keep free from weeds, stirring the ground often.

Stones or pits of fruit, save and plant at once, or mix with earth.

KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDEN.

Artichokes—Break down ff.

Borage—Sow ff.

Cabbage and Cauliflower—Sow m. to l. for cold frames; hoe former plantings.

Cardoons—Earth up.

Celery—Earth up when perfectly dry, but do not cover the heart of the plant, nor bruise the stalks, as either will cause them to rot.

Cold Frames, shutters, &c., have in readiness, glazing the sash frames if needed.

Corn Salad—Sow ff. and m.

Cucumbers for Pickling—Gather before frost, as they are soon injured by exposure.

Earthing up—Attend to, f. m. l.

Endive—Blanch early, f. to m.; transplant for winter ff.

Herbaceous Plants—Part roots ll., in cloudy or damp weather, and plant out to increase the stock.

Herbs—Gather and dry thoroughly, after which rub them through a seive, and put in bottles or boxes, keeping in dry places.

Hoe the ground often, particularly among late vegetables, and in dry weather.

Hops—Continue to gather ff.; dry and pack for winter keeping.

Insects—Continue to entrap as per directions of last month, which see, and also on another page of this number.

Lettuce—Sow for spring planting f. to m.

Mangoes—Gather before frost.

Manure grounds intended for early gardening next spring. Plow deep, and subsoil or trench, so as to cover the manure thoroughly.

Mint—Plant f. to m.

Mushroom Beds—Make and collect spawn ff. to m.

Nasturtiums—Gather as ready for pickles.

Onions—Pull and dry ripe ones, sowing seed ff. to m., to stand over winter.

Parsley—Sow f. to m. for spring use.

Potatoes—Dig as wanted for use, but leave those for winter till next month.

Radishes for Fall and Winter use—Sow ff.; for spring, sow m. to ll.

Rhubarb—Sow f. to m.

Seeds—Gather as they ripen, selecting the best for next year's planting; label and date the time of putting them up, that you may know their age at any future season.

Stakes used for Raspberries—Gather up and lay away under cover for next year's use.

Spinach—Sow ff. for fall and winter use, and m. to l. for spring, covering during the winter.

Stone Fruits—Do not allow to get over ripe, as their fine aromatic flavor is thus lost.

Strawberries—Make beds and plant ff., if not done last month. Clean out old beds. (See article elsewhere, and especially in last number.)

Tomatoes—Keep the fruit from the ground by means of brush or tying up.

Turnips—A few may be sown ff., south of this latitude; hoe and thin advancing crops, using the hand or horse cultivator when they are accessible.

Weeds—Pull large ones, and carry to the hog-pen; watch carefully that none go to seed.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

Annuals—Sow ff. all half hardy plants not completed last month.

Bulbous Roots—Plant f. m. to l.; sow seed ff. (See article elsewhere.)

Canterbury Bell—Sow f. to m.

Carnations—Take off layers, cutting at the joint nearest the root.

Clarkia—Sow ff. in pots, and place them in a cold frame for early spring planting.

Coreopsis, Centaurea, and Collinsia—Sow f. to m., in well prepared borders.

Cuttings of Woody shrubs—Make m. to l.

Dahlias and tall Herbaceous Plants—Stake securely to prevent their being blown down by the high winds of this month.

Evergreens may be planted during this month, when desirable, though as a general thing we prefer spring transplanting.

Flower Stalks—Remove as fast as they have finished blooming.

Grass—Mow and roll as required, sowing seed on bare spots.

Gravel Walks—Weed and rake off, f. m. l.

Hedges—Clip ff. to m.

Hoe often to keep down weeds and promote the growth of late plants.

Hyacinths and Crown Imperials—Plant out m. to ll.

Lilies—Transplant ff. to m., parting offsets.

Mignonette—Sow in pots f. to m., and shelter in frames.

Pansies—Sow seed and propagate by layers.

Pinks—Plant out pipings for spring blooming, ff. to m., on warm borders or beds.

Polyanthus and Ranunculus—Plant ff. to m.

Primula—Sow ff., and they will vegetate next spring; but if sown at that time, they will probably remain in the ground for a year.

Roses may still be budded ff.

Scabious—Sow ff.

Seeds—Collect with care and mark plain.

Tender Plants, which were placed in borders and flower beds, take up m. to l.; prune and repot.

Tulips and other Tuberous Plants—Plant out m. to l.

Verbenas—Pot runners and layers for winter blooming.

Water less frequent, unless the season should be dry; heavy dews and fogs, in addition to the rains, will nearly supply the requisite moisture.

Weeds—Pull and carry to the hog-pen before they seed the ground.

GREEN AND HOT HOUSE.

Air freely in mild weather, especially the green-house.

Azalias—Remove to the house f. to m., or before heavy rains set in.

Bulbs—Plant f. to m.

Camelias—Complete repotting ff.; water and syringe freely, that there be no check while the blossom buds are forming; have them all in the house by the 20th.

Chrysanthemums—Pot a few, treating them as stocks, and they will bloom till December.

Composts—Prepare f. to m.

Crocus—Pot for winter blooming m.

Cuttings—Strike and plant out ff. to m.

Fires—Keep up a moderate heat to expel dampness and assist in ripening late crops of grapes, &c.

Geraniums—Remove those planted in borders, and pot f. to m.; water those potted last month sparingly.

Grapes—Air freely both those which are maturing and those which have ripened their crop; water the border occasionally, unless there be sufficient rain.

Houses — Complete glazing, cleaning, white-washing and painting ff.; examine ropes, pulleys and weights.

Housing Plants—Attend to f. to m.; they should nearly all be in by the 20th, and the tender ones much earlier. Take in the tallest first, such as Oleanders, Oranges, Lemons, Myrtles and Limes, keeping the latter in a warm part of the house.

Hyacinths, Gladiolas, Narcissus, Tulips and Polyanthus for forcing, pot ff. to m.

Insects—Destroy by fumigations, syringing and searching after.

Leaves—Wash and remove those decayed.

Myrtles and Oleanders in borders—Remove to pots f. to m., thinning out shoots, if too crowded; turn often, to give them regular heads.

Oranges and Lemons—Remove to the house ff. to m., thinning the fruit, and pruning as necessary.

Pelargoniums may remain out in sheltered situations till next month; Pot cuttings f. to m.

Pines—Take off and pot strong suckers ff.; weaker ones may be removed m. to l., and put in a pit for wintering.

Potting should be assiduously attended to this month; bedding plants and their layers should be potted and carried in before they are injured by frosts.

Prune and dress plants as they are taken in; also grape vines and peaches which have matured their crops early

Roses—Make cuttings ff. ; pot for forcing f. to m.

Seedlings and other Plants well rooted—Transplant f. to m.

Sow Mignonette, Clarkia, and a few others ff., to bloom during the winter.

Stocks and Wall Flowers—Lift and remove to the house ff., if wanted to bloom during the winter ; pot them in light loamy soil, and keep shaded for a season, sprinkling them with water often.

Succulents—Remove to the houses ff., and place those requiring the greatest heat under glasses.

Syringe less frequently, and only during dry weather, unless it be with whale oil soap to destroy insects.

Tender Plants—Watch closely, and remove to the houses early, before they are checked by the cool weather.

Tuberous Plants—Keep dry.

Verbenas—Make cuttings and layers for winter blooming ; pot and take in f. to m.

Water less frequently this month, in the morning rather than evening. Large plants in tubs will not require water more than once or twice a week, but they should then have enough to wet them thoroughly.

OUR EXPERIMENTS WITH NEW VARIETIES OF PEAS.

Four new varieties of these (from Germany), received through the Patent Office, were planted May 12. They were drilled in parallel rows, side by side, on a light sandy loam, with a small quantity of fine bone-dust put into the drills, and watered occasionally with sink slops.

1. *Daniel O'Rourke.*—Peas rather under the medium size ; vines dwarfish, or 20 to 25 inches high at maturity. These were ready for the table June 26, or in forty-five days from planting. Eating quality fair, but nothing extra. They were harvested and re-sown on the same ground July 15, and now (August 15) are in bloom again. With early planting two crops can easily be raised on the same ground. A medium bearer: chief merit: great rapidity of growth, and very early maturity.

2. *Dwarf Hamburg.*—This is true to the name *dwarf*, as at maturity the vines stood upright, and were not above six inches high. The vines were well loaded with pods, but owing to their smallness, this variety cannot be considered very productive. These were full medium size, and ready for table June 29, or in forty-eight days from planting. Eating quality fair: early maturity their chief recommendation. Harvested and replanted on same ground July 15, and now in second bloom.

3. *Dwarf Mammoth.*—This is a slower grower than the above, as it was not ready for the table until July 25, or in seventy-four days from planting. But with this exception, it is the finest garden pea we have ever raised or seen. It is very large, literally a mammoth pea, with a rich sweet flavor. The vines average about two feet in hight, and bear pretty well.

4. *Capucine.*—A tall and slow growing pea, of large size and purple color, when cooked green or ripe. Ready for table July 31, eighty days from planting. They cook mealy when green, but the dark purple color is against them, and the flavor is not equal to the Marrowfat, we think.

For family use we shall next season plant the Daniel O'Rourke in succession, and a few Dwarf Hamburg for use up to the time of ripening of the Dwarf Mammoth, and make the Mammoth our chief reliance. Its superior size and flavor, little bushing required, and successive ripening of pods on different parts of the same vines, are all decidedly in its favor. We trust somebody will import a large quantity from Germany, that the seed may be generally distributed. —[Ed.

IMPROVING SANDY SOILS.

AN ILLUSTRATION SHOWING THE PROFITABLENESS OF APPLYING SKILL AND CAPITAL TO THE RENOVATION OF POOR LAND.

A few days since we received a call from a Pennsylvania farmer who occupies a very sandy soil in one of the pine regions of that State. He referred to the great advantages he had derived from hints thrown out from time to time in the Agriculturist, and as an illustration recalled an article we wrote several years ago, in reference to the treatment of sandy soil with clay. He, and afterwards several of his neighbors, had followed our suggestions, and sundry barren sandy fields are already as fruitful as a garden. He described particularly one field of *five* acres, which, prior to 1849, would scarcely yield twenty bushels of corn to the acre, no matter how well manured, but which in 1855 produced 388 bushels of nice, sound shelled corn, that is, over 77½ bushels to the acre, *without any manure.* The treatment was as follows :

In the Fall of 1849 men were set to work upon a bed of clay, situated in a deep valley upon one side of the farm. The ground was laid out into alternate strips, or beds of six and thirteen feet wide. The narrow strips were then dug out to the depth of four feet, the clay removed being thrown out upon either side, and piled upon the edges of the wide strips. An outlet at the lower end of the several ditches thus made, drew off any water that settled into them. In the middle of the wider strip a smooth space remained between the masses of clay piled upon either side, for the passage of a double team with a cart or sled.

When the ground was covered with snow in winter, the clay was taken upon ox-sleds and drawn about one-third of a mile to the sandy field above referred to. The surface of the heaped clay was frozen from six to twelve inches in depth, but being pretty thoroughly drained of water, it was easily broken into lumps with the aid of axes and crow-bars, and tumbled upon the low-built sleds. One hundred loads were applied to the acre during the first winter. In the spring the masses of clay crumbled down quite finely, and they were then spread more uniformly over the surface than could be done in the winter. A roller, followed by a harrow, was then passed over the field to break up and distribute the lumps of clay evenly over the surface. As soon as dry enough, the field was plowed five to six inches in depth, and a very heavy, long-tooth harrow passed over it. It was again plowed deeply, say eight to ten inches, harrowed deeply and thoroughly, and the corn planted. The yield that year (1850) was 287½ bushels, or 57½ bushels per acre. An adjoining field, having a similar soil and location, and planted at the same time, averaged twenty-one bushels per acre. Another similar field, at a little distance, which had received twenty loads per acre of yard manure, yielded 37 bushels to the acre. In the Fall of 1850, the clayed field was sown to wheat, and produced 97½ bushels, or 19½ bushels per acre. In the winter of 1851-2, it was again treated to fifty loads per acre of clay, worked in as before, and corn planted in 1852. The crop was estimated at 65 bushels per acre, but not accurately measured. In autumn, wheat was again sowed, and clover seed added in the spring, which furnished considerable feed in the fall of 1853. It was mowed in 1854, and pastured in autumn.

In the spring of 1855, the field was plowed and planted to corn, and yielded as above —77½ bushels of shell corn per acre. A heavy crop of wheat has just been removed.

The cost of claying the land is estimated at $20 per acre, where one hundred loads were drawn one-third of a mile ; the actual cost was less than this, as the work was chiefly performed at a time when little else could be done by the teams, or by the workmen, who were employed by the year.

It will readily be seen by an arithmetical calculation, that one hundred loads to the acre gives about one load to each plot of twenty feet square. Our informant estimates the loads of clay to have averaged 1½ to 2 tuns each. He says that where he added sixteen loads to the acre, or one to every square rod, the soil, which was before almost entirely sand, is changed to a comparatively rich loam, to the depth of nine to twelve inches—the last three plowings having been made to that depth. His land is now *permanently* improved, and will, without doubt, pay back annually a very large interest upon the capital invested in claying it. To show how this is, we may make the following estimate, say for the last year's crop, allowing that, owing to a favorable season, the field in its original condition *might* have yielded 30 bushels of corn to the acre, or 150 bushels in all.

BEFORE CLAYING.

Cost of plowing, &c., 5 acres, say	$10 00
Cost of seed and planting	7 00
Cost of hoeing and cultivating	12 50
Cost of harvesting & husking 150 bu.	12 00
Interest on land, at $10 per acre	3 50
Total cost	$45 00
150 bushels of corn at 40c.	60 00
Net profit on 5 acres	$15 00
Net profit per acre	3 00

AFTER CLAYING.

Cost of plowing, &c., as above	$10 00
Cost of seed and planting	7 00
Cost of hoeing, &c.	12 50
Cost of harvesting & husking 388 bus.	25 00
Interest on land, at $40 per acre	14 00
Total cost	$68 50
388 bushels, at 40c	155 20
Net profit on 5 acres	$86 70
Net profit per acre	17 34

In the above calculation, we have not taken into account the increased value of the corn stalks for fodder.

The yield of 77½ bushels per acre was, however, a large one, due in part to an unusually good season. To bring it within sure limits, let us suppose the average yield to be only fifty bushels per acre on the improved land. Allow still that the unimproved land would yield 30 bushels per acre, and place the profit as before, at $3 per acre. The account, after the improvement, will stand :

Cost of preparing land	$10 00
Cost of seed and planting	7 00
Cost of cultivation	12 50
Cost of harvesting 250 bushels	20 00
Total	$49 50
250 bushels, at 40c	100 00
Profit on five acres	50 50
Profit per acre	10 10
Deduct profit before improvement	3 00
Net profit per acre for improvement	7 10

As all the expenses of plowing, seed and cultivation, are the same in both cases, and we have allowed $8 for the expense of harvesting and husking the extra yield, this $7 10 per acre may be put down as so much profit on $30 expended in improving an acre. This is equal to over 23 per cent. The increased value of the fodder would raise the profit to over 25 per cent.

In the above calculations, we have taken the lowest figures for the benefits arising from the improvement of the land. In the case given in illustration, the profits were far greater, and so they will be in nine cases of every ten. A crop of corn, grass or wheat, may be secured from such land annually, and the average profit will be quite as large as we have estimated for corn. The only chance for lower figures is where, from the difficulty of procuring clay, $30 will not suffice to add 150 heavy loads of clay to the acre. But suppose the expense be $50 per acre, and the annual increase be but 20 bushels, at 40 cents per bushel, the profit would still be equal to $8 on $50, or 16 per cent.

Now, what bank or railroad stock pays 25 per cent., or even 15 per cent. per annum? Suppose even that we could readily find such stocks; the banks or railroads may fail, or meet with severe losses, such as almost all of them have experienced. A sandy field improved by giving it a thorough admixture of clay, is improved for a dozen generations, as nothing but a long-continued flood of running water can remove the clay and reduce the soil to its former sandy, barren condition. The same amount of preparation, seed and cultivation, will ever after produce a much larger amount of crop. Further, whatever manures or fertilizers are afterwards added, will be much more effective on the improved than on the original soil.

The considerations we have presented, appeal to the capitalist as well as the farmer in moderate circumstances. Another view might be taken of this subject, viz., the economy of cultivating small farms *well*, instead of adding acre to acre, which is all the rage now-a-days among the possessors of both small and large farms, but having already made this article longer than we designed, we leave the subject now, intending to often recur to it again.—[Ed.

SUGGESTIONS ON SOWING WHEAT.

Some of our correspondents tell rather pitiful stories respecting the Wheat crop in their several localities, and they speak strongly of its culture being wholly abandoned. But such reports are confined to a very few sections, and these of limited extent. So far as we can learn, the past crop has been comparatively a good one, and farmers are preparing the ground for sowing quite as largely as in past years. This we believe to be good policy. Wheat is still a safe crop when compared with other staple farm productions. It is so well adapted to universal consumption that it will always find a ready market. No other product of the farm is better adapted for transportation to any part of the world where it may be needed. Few places are so remote from market that Wheat can not generally be converted into cash at all seasons of the year; and no other crop has uniformly maintained so high comparative prices as this. The partial decline during the present year has led many to fear a return to the low prices of former years, but we think this can not be reasonably looked for. The great increase of gold in our country has changed the old ratios of value, and all kinds of farm produce have felt the influence much more than manufactured goods. Wheat is now but little higher, compared with other crops, than it was five or ten years ago, and we see no reason for its sinking any lower in the comparative scale. Temporary causes may produce a general depression of prices in farm products as well as in everything else, but every consideration leads us to believe that farmers may calculate upon receiving remunerative if not decidedly profitable returns for all the Wheat they can raise hereafter. We have annually given a chapter of suggestions at this season, in reference to the time, mode of sowing, &c., of Wheat, and we can not do better at this time than to repeat in substance what we stated last year.

So far as our observation has extended, limestone lands, or clay lands limed, have generally been found to be the best soils for Wheat. The best Wheat soils in the "Genesee Country," are good loams which are filled with encrinitic limestones, that is, limestones filled with organic or animal remains. Experience, however, is a better test of the adaptability of the soil of any particular locality to Wheat growing than any arbitrary rules that can be laid down. There are comparatively few farms which do not contain more or less Wheat land. There are on almost all farms, many acres which may be sown to Wheat with the prospect of only half a crop, to better advantage than to let them lie in stubble or poor pasture. The opinion that all grass land must be plowed previous to harvest, and lie sometimes as Summer-fallow, is erroneous. A meadow or pasture may be turned over in September, and Wheat sown directly upon the inverted sod. Such land should be well harrowed after plowing, and if very poor, a light coating of rotted manure or guano be worked into the surface to supply the necessities of the plant until the decay of the underlying sods. Stubble lands, whether of Oats, Wheat or Barley, may also be sown probably, if a coating of manure or guano be applied; and it is even better to obtain a half or two-thirds crop, than to let such ground lie idle for a whole year. Those who understand well the philosophy of manuring, find no difficulty in remunerative crops of Wheat every year from the same field, though a rotation of crops is always advisable, where it can be done without contracting the amount of the more important crop.

SELECTION OF SEED.

This should be attended to before as well as after threshing. The Wheat ripening earliest should invariably be saved for seed. The manner of threshing is important. When Wheat is crowded through a machine with close-setting, sharp teeth, a great number of the kernels are broken, or crushed so as to destroy the germ, though the fracture may not be perceptible to the eye, at least without careful inspection. We have counted ten to twenty-five in a hundred kernels thus spoiled for seed. We have latterly recommended to place the whole sheaves upon the barn-floor, and beat off with the flail the largest and best kernels for seed; and then lay aside the sheaves to be run through a machine afterwards. Two men will readily beat off thirty to sixty bushels of seed in a day, if the threshing-floor is adjacent to the Wheat-mow, since a very little beating will take out half or more of the grain.

Select the largest, plumpest kernels for seed.—To pass over the generally established principle, that "like produces like," there is an important consideration that we have not seen referred to by writers on the selection of various kinds of seed. Every seed contains not only the germ of the future plant, but also a supply of nourishment for the first wants of the young shoot. The germ of the Wheat seed is very small, and the great bulk of the kernel is composed of what must nourish the germ until it has sent forth roots into the soil and leaves into the air. If now the kernel be small or shriveled, the young shoot will lack for nourishment, will get a poor start, and for a long time have but a comparatively feeble growth; while, from the full, plump kernel, the shoot will derive a full supply of pabulum, will send forth vigorous roots and leaves, and will have a much better chance for a rapid after-growth. Three hundred pounds per acre of guano, intimately mingled with the soil, has been found to exert a powerful effect upon the Wheat plants, and yet that amount of guano does not furnish to each cubic inch of soil as much nourishment as there is in a single plump kernel of Wheat. This reasoning must appear obvious to every one; and to this we may add the fact that, in our experience, as well as from extended observation, we have found the practice of selecting large seed to be highly profitable. Our method has been to run the Wheat designed for seed over a coarse screen, which sorted out only about one-fourth to one-half of the largest, plumpest kernels. This process separates all foul seeds, and is the very best plan for rooting out such parts and securing "clean land." We have pursued the course for a few years, and the result has been that the general character of the Wheat has been so much improved that after selecting one-third of the plumpest kernels for seed and home use, the remaining two-thirds has still commanded the highest market price.

Varieties of Seed.—Almost every section of the country has some particular variety of Wheat which has been found best adapted to the locality, and no general rule can be given. Let every farmer be sure and get the best, and not sow a poorer variety *because he happens to have it.* He can usually exchange with a neighbor, giving Wheat good for consumption or market, for that which is more valuable for seed. Better to expend a dollar more for good seed than sow poor, when $10 to $12 per acre is to be laid out in other expenses of cultivation. An additional yield of two or three bushels for the same labor in cultivating will well repay the difference between good and bad seed.

From nearly all accounts of the past and present year, the Red Mediterranean Wheat has been found the most reliable, and wherever this seed is accessible we advise to procure it for a part or the whole of the next crop.

SOW WHEAT EARLY.

Every year's experience and observation show more and more plainly the importance of sowing Wheat early. One half or more of the reports from the Wheat crop during two years past contain in substance the following: "Early sown Wheat is good, but late sown is Winter-killed," or "injured by the insect." Wheat should get *well-rooted* before frosts set in. The *long* roots will be far less liable to be thrown out by frost. Nature is a good teacher; as soon as the old crop is ripe the seeds fall to the ground and commence growing again. North of latitude 42° it would be better if every grain of seed Wheat were in the ground early in September. From 40° to 42°, Wheat sowing should be *finished* by the first week in October.

METHOD OF SOWING WHEAT.

Every person raising twenty or thirty acres of Wheat can well afford to purchase a seed-drill, unless he can join a neighbor in buying one. Some of the advantages of drilling in Wheat, instead of sowing broadcast, may be summed up as follows:

The seed is put into the ground at a uniform depth, the plants come up evenly, grow evenly, and ripen at the same time.

A much smaller quantity of seed is required, because no allowance need be made for portions left partially covered, or covered too deeply; nor for a large number of seeds falling together, as usually happens in broadcast sowing. Nearly half a bushel of seed per acre may be saved, which, with the present high price of Wheat, would pay the cost of a seed-sower the first year upon a large farm, or where several small farmers unite in purchasing one.

Where the plants grow at uniform distances the light and air enter more freely, and a more vigorous growth is secured. Direct experiments have shown that where the heads of Wheat stand well apart the kernels upon each head are plumper, and often more than double the number of those upon heads growing closely together.

With the plants at equal distances, the roots occupy the whole soil, and do not interfere with each other, and there is a greater certainty of using up all the fertilizer applied to the ground.

Next to drilling-in Wheat we recommend plowing it with shallow furrows. In this method the grain is covered more uniformly with the plow than it would be with a harrow; the plants come up in rows and admit light and air; and as they stand between the small ridges, the soil from these will crumble down with frost, and falling around the roots, will be partially equivalent to hoeing. Of course, the ground should not be touched with harrow, roller or brush after the Wheat is plowed in.

MANURES FOR WHEAT.

These must be varied to meet the condition of the soil. Where the ground is cold and wet, and consequently contains decayed vegetable matter, alkalies, such as newly slacked lime, or unleached ashes, are highly valuable. In soils not abounding already in sulphate of iron and sulphuric acid in some form, Plaster of Paris is an excellent fertilizer, as it—so to speak—catches ammonia from the air and from rain water, and thus supplies Wheat with one of its best stimulants. Barn-yard manures of all kinds are always good. We recommend less rotting or composting than is usually practiced; let the manure, even to long straw, be kept from fermenting, and get it *under* the surface soil, where it will without fail decay gradually and furnish just the nourishment needed. If this is done that will not be a waste of the greater part of the best elements which are usually lost in the rotting process. Clover plowed under when at its full growth, and while still green, is one of the very best fertilizers for Wheat. When clover or manure, or sod is once plowed under, whether before or after the harvest season, it should never be turned up again. Let the surface be thoroughly pulverized with a heavy, sharp harrow, or with a cultivator, but never use the plow the second time, at least not deeply enough to throw up to the surface the organic or vegetable substances buried at the first plowing.

Of all "*foreign* manures" yet tried upon Wheat, there has none been found so *generally* beneficial as genuine Peruvian Guano. Wheat seems to delight especially in ammonia, and Guano furnishes this in abundance at the cheapest rate. Much value has been claimed for super-phosphate of lime and other manufactured articles, but the benefit derived from these often lies *more* in the advertisement of the interested manufacturers, than in any observed valuable results. Comparatively good results have, indeed, been observed, but it is worthy of remark that these have always followed where Guano, or some good substitute for it, has been added to the super-phosphate. The safer, cheaper plan for the purchaser is, to go to the fountain head and get the pure, unadulterated Guano itself.

MECHANICAL TREATMENT OF SOIL FOR WHEAT.

First of all, after making it *dry*, let it be stirred deeply; we do not say plowed deeply in the common acceptation of that word, for it is not always advisable to turn up to the surface a great depth of the sub-soil. This may be poisonous, or otherwise unfit for direct contact with the young plant. But it should at least be stirred below with a sub-soil plow to let in the air and allow water to drain off. If this is done the roots will strike down to a greater depth; they will derive more nourishment, as well as sap with which to appropriate the food collected from the air by the leaves; the frost will be less likely to heave them out; and the roots thus allowed by the deep cultivation to penetrate deep downwards, will be below the temporary effect of the sun in long drouths or hot weather.

Where under-draining is not already done, Wheat soil should in all cases be plowed in narrow lands, and the dead furrows between be left deep and well cleaned out, so that no water shall stand in the soil during freezing weather. A single illustration will show the importance of this. Dry or partly dry solid substances like soil, are but comparatively little expanded and contracted by heat and cold, while water expands and contracts about one-eighth of its whole bulk by a change of nine degrees of temperature, (40° to 31°.) Eight measures of water will produce nine measures of ice, and a soil saturated with water will swell and contract in freezing and thawing just as much as the same bulk of water itself. Now a wet soil by these alternate expansions and contractions, breaks and tears the roots of Wheat, and if it is not Winter-killed outright, it will be so much injured as to have a sickly, late growth in the Spring—a result not found where the soil is free from water during Winter. All Winter crops are in a similar condition. Hence, we repeat, let the best provision possible be made to keep the ground free from water during freezing weather.—[ED.

HUMBUGS.

A TWO CENT SHAVE.

About the meanest imposition practiced upon the community, is that of certain venders of quack medicines, who are continually sending over the county circulars, pamphlets, &c., directed through the Post Office, UNPAID, to every individual whose address they can get from business directories, reports of meetings, &c., &c. The more prominent a man becomes the more is he likely to be annoyed; but the evil is extending to every class of society. Not long since we received a letter stating that, for a consideration named, "the writer would mail for us a circular to the address of each of 41,000 farmers," adding "that it was unnecessary to prepay postage," and further, "that he had already sent out over four millions of circulars for medicines, &c.," that is, all of these farmers had been taxed two dollars, or two cents each, on 100 circulars, of which probably ninety-nine were advertisements of the sheerest humbugs. What is this but a downright robbery of $80,000?

Scarcely a week passes that we are not offered a large sum to allow the maker of some quack medicine to send a "circular" to each of our subscribers. We invariably refuse all such offers, however tempting, and if any of our readers receive any such documents by mail they may rest assured that no facilities for obtaining their address are furnished at the office of the American Agriculturist. If the sellers of any article, however valuable or otherwise, wish to send advertising circulars abroad, let them, at the least, have the decency to prepay all postage. We have been so frequently imposed upon ourselves by such unpaid documents that we have resolved to show them up by name. We begin by informing "W—— G——, M. D., of New-York," that we have no earthly use for his 12-page pamphlet, this day received, enclosed in a sealed envelope and *unpaid.* We are not, to our knowledge, afflicted with "Pulmonary Consumption," nor likely to be. If we are ever affected in that way we shall probably try to get cured or killed in the regular old-fashioned method, though we cannot say but that our nervous fears may in such a case lead us to send $3 for one box, or $8 for three boxes of the most ingeniously puffed secret medicine we can find in market.

THE "POSTAGE-STAMP" SHAVE.

Scarcely a newspaper can now be taken up that does not contain the advertisement of some "Rev." or "M. D." who has recovered his health by the discovery of a wonderful remedy for consumption or nervousness or other ailing. Filled with gratitude for the good they have secured they are benevolently affected towards all other sufferers, and hence they pay large sums to inform the people that for one, two, three or four "postage stamps" they will send the recipe by return of mail.

We had not supposed it necessary to caution the community against such imposters, but it appears that the business pays well enough to keep it up, and moreover it is now greatly on the increase, and to our surprise during the last month intelligent men in different parts of the country have actually sent us special remittances of stamps asking us to call upon Dr. So-and-so and Rev. So-and-so, and procure for them the elixir of life. If intelligent persons are thus imposed upon, how is it with the millions of ignorant and unwary? Of course we have made no effort to find the advertisers. It is exceedingly doubtful whether they have any "local habitation," or are to be found in any other way than through their Post-Office box.

Has not the question occurred to every one, If these *benevolent* individuals are so anxious to do a public good, why do they not publish to the world at once their important discoveries, which could be done without cost, instead of paying hundreds, yes, thousands of dollars for advertising, and making tens of thousands of dollars expense to those "sending stamps" and prepaying postage?

A correspondent informs us that: "A nervous neighbor enclosed a stamp to one of these 'superannuated clergymen,' and received an unpaid circular (costing the getter-up one mill,) setting forth the virtues of a costly preparation which would be forwarded to him on the receipt of $1; that impressed with the apparent honesty of the 'clergyman,' he sent forward the dollar, and received in return a little unpaid package containing 12 homœopathic pills of arseniate of potassa, costing perhaps one cent, with directions to take three a day, and if these did not cure perfectly another batch would be forwarded at the same rate; and that while one package seldom failed, two, three, or at most five could not fail to work a perfect cure *if the patient had rightly described, his condition.*"

Probably very few of those who "enclose stamps" ever hear from them again.

But enough for this time; we have more cases on hand for future disposal.—[Ed.

THE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.

During a few weeks past we have received some sixty to seventy printed documents, letters, &c., giving announcements, details of arrangements, &c., for the forthcoming exhibitions of State and County Agricultural Societies. It will be seen at once that we could not begin to refer to so many different organizations individually. Those who have favored us with documents, announcements, &c., will please accept our thanks for their kind remembrance and consideration. On another page we have at considerable expense of labor and time prepared a full table, showing in chronological order the time and place of the Exhibitions of *over two hundred* Societies, and yet these comprise but a small part of the number to be held during this and the succeeding month. Is not this a cheering indication of the unprecedented interest every where awakened in the cause of agricultural improvement?

We estimate that during four weeks (the last two of September and first two in October), not less than FOUR HUNDRED great agricultural gatherings will be held in this country. If these could all be concentrated at one point, what a mighty concourse would there be of the real "bone and sinew" of the land. With our own constant home labors pressing upon us, in which there are no special seasons of repose, such as most of our readers enjoy at some time during the year, we can personally participate in only very few of these social reunions, but we shall for the next few weeks enjoy, in imagination at least, the almost innumerable gala scenes transpiring all up and down the agricultural vallies of the wide-spread domain of our loved country. We will not attempt to describe these scenes as they now appear in imagination before us—the well or poorly arranged exhibition grounds, the droves on droves of showy and valuable animals, heaps on heaps of grain, vegetables and fruits on thousands of well-laid tables, the hurrying to and fro of the officers and committees upon whom devolves the burden of seeing all things done "decently and in order," and more too, the passing in of the crowds of stalwart men of noble mien, though in rustic habiliments, accompanied by the worthy companions and help-meets of their toil, and the bevy of ruddy, healthful boys and girls, who, though properly left out of the premium lists, are perhaps the most premium-worthy productions of the country home. When we have seen these unloaded from the long rows of vehicles that line the fences in every direction from the center point of attraction, the mind follows them into the show-grounds where, gathered in groups around this or that fine animal, or production of the field, garden or household, the old and young mingle in social chat, and in discussion of the merits of each, save when now and then interrupted by the official "stand back and make room for the Committee." Then comes the trials of strength of animals, the plowing match, the spading match, &c., and the day or days close up with the "Address," the announcement of the Committee on Awards to the anxious listeners, the satisfied or dissatisfied looks of the successful and unsuccessful competitors, and finally the general breaking up and dispersion of the throng who wend their way back to their quiet homes.

We are neither painter nor poet, or we would gladly take up the theme, and fill out a portion of these scenes, and the connected incidents, as they crowd thick upon the imagination. It is one far more inspiring than those other multitudinous crowds which this year will be collected for political purposes. But both have their uses, and each should have their due share of thought and attention. By all means let the agricultural gatherings be well attended; let every son and daughter of our great agricultural phalanx go up and meet and greet their brethren, and rejoice with each other at this festive season; and in all our joy, let us ever be mindful of Him who has promised that "seed time and harvest shall fail not," to whose kind beneficence we are indebted for the bountiful products we enjoy in this favored year of 1856.—[Ed.

WESTERN LAND STORIES—N.Y. EVANGELIST.

In our July issue we took occasion to make some remarks in reference to Munchausen stories of the enormous products of Western lands, and the tendency of these to mislead Eastern farmers, particularly when the product of some special locality or farm was held up in such a way as to give an idea that the whole West was like unto it. In illustration, we introduced and remarked somewhat severely upon a description of an Illinois farm that had recently appeared in the New-York Evangelist. We distinctly stated that that article was merely taken "as a sample" and disclaimed any intention to disparage the writer or the owner of the farm. The article was somewhat caustic, we admit, and purposely so, for it is one part of our duty to show up, as far as may be, any schemes or influences calculated to lead astray those who occupy a less commanding field of observation. Our readers look to us for just such information, and we do not mean they shall be wholly disappointed. In the Evangelist of Aug. 21 we find a long personal explanation from the Chicago editor, Rev. Chas. P. Bush, in which he admits some of our criticisms as just, and brings forward statements to show that we were wrong in others. Our answer shall be brief: We stated that Mr. Curtis, the owner of the West Urbana farm, lived in

Chicago. Mr. Bush says he lives on his farm. As to the identity of *the* Mr. Curtis alluded to in Mr. Bush's correspondence, there may be *two* "Dromios" in the field. But when we were last year in Chicago we saw a Mr. Curtis, who was said to be a late Mayor of that city; and we were afterwards pointed to a fine new house just finishing near the lake, as belonging to "the late Mayor Curtis," and intended for his own residence. We supposed that gentleman, to be one and the same person with Mr. Bush's model farmer, who he stated to be an "ex-Mayor of Chicago." If we were mistaken as to the personal identitity of the gentleman, we beg both his, and Mr. Bush's pardon, and congratulate the city of Chicago and the State of Illinois, both, on having two so spirited and liberal-minded gentlemen within their borders. All this matter of personal identity, however, as touching the *gravamen* of Mr. Bush's fault-finding, is *immaterial*, as the lawyers would say, and only incidental to the "whopping" portion of Mr. B's story of the "farming."

The *drift* of Mr. Bush's article is what we criticised as being exaggerated, and coloring "Illinois farming" beyond the facts as they exist. His special pleading, (in his reply,) by giving insulated cases of remarkable cultivation, and extraordinary crops, now and then, here and elsewhere, have nothing to do with the main inferences he intended to draw. We concede, if Mr. Bush pleases, the *particular* instances he names, and in answer to them all we repeat our former statements as the plain unvarnished truth. Refute them, if he can. We can produce statements akin to his from almost every State in the Union, so far as the pro-rata amount of crops are concerned; and we can inform him that among all *fair* reading, this style of representation would be called "jesuitical," *incorrect*—the sense in which we use this term, we presume he will understand. Plain, unvarnished truth is what we expect from a gentleman of his calling, and when they make statements apart from that, either their motives or intelligence are quite apt to be questioned. It is sufficient for us that Mr. Bush "owns up" to some of his statements, and that is enough to throw discredit on more of them, when this absolute *personal* knowledge is wanting.

As to Mr. Harris and his big drove of cattle, we did not deny that he was a farmer, but we said that he dealt in, drove, and fed cattle. We denied that he "bred and reared" *the* drove of bullocks in question. He may have 4,200 or 10,000 acres in his farm—that has nothing to do with the facts of *that drove* which Mr. Bush described. He does not now say that we were mistaken in what we stated—which was that Mr. Harris neither bred nor reared them. If that fact can be substantiated we will acknowledge our error—till then, our denial holds good. Mr. Harris may own, and farm all the western world, but that don't make him breed and rear that herd of cattle. In relation to the 5,876 pound ox which Mr. Bush now says is a typographical error, and takes 3,000 pounds off from him, and "a more generous critic" would have allowed, we consider it of a piece with a part of his other statements.

We find *no* fault with Illinois, either in its soil, climate, or the general enterprize of its population. They are well enough, as times go. But if Mr. Bush chooses to pick out a few insulated facts, greatly out of the common line, and set them forth as *common* things in Illinois, as he did in the article alluded to, he will find that common credulity will be quite apt to question his own good sense, or his professional integrity, in giving them out to the world.—Ed.

STATE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS 1856.

Name.	*Where Held.*	*Date.*
Ohio and Pa. Horse,	Salem, O.	Sept. 4—6
Kentucky,	Lexington	" 9—12
Vermont,	Burlington	" 9—12
New-Jersey,	Newark	" 9—12
Canada East,	Three Rivers	" 16—18
West Virginia,	Wheeling Island	" 17—19
Ohio,	Cleveland	" 23—26
Canada West	Kingston	" 23—26
American Institute, N.Y.	Crystal Palace,	Sept. 23 to Oct. 25
Am. Pomological Society	Rochester	" 24—
Illinois	Alton	" 30 Oct. 3
Michigan	Detroit	" 30 " 3
New-York	Watertown	" 30 " 3
Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	" 30 " 2
Kentucky	Paris	" 30 " 5
Missouri,	Boonville	Oct. 6—10
California	San Jose	" 7—10
Connecticut	New-Haven	" 7—10
National Ag. Show	Philadelphia	" 7—10
North Kentucky	Florence	" 7—11
Minnesota	Minneopolis	" 8—10
Wisconsin	Milwaukie	" 8—10
Iowa	Muscatine	" 8—10
New-Hampshire	Concord	" 8—10
Tennessee,	Nashville	" 13—19
Amer. Inst. Cattle Show,	New-York	" 14—16
North Carolina	Raleigh	" 14—17
Georgia	Atlanta	" 20—25
Indiana	Indianapolis	" 20—25
Maryland	Baltimore	" 21—24
Maine	Portland	" 21—24
Massachusetts	Worcester	Oct. 25—
Virginia,	Richmond	Oct. 28—Nov. 1
Alabama	Montgomery	Nov. 11—14
South Carolina	Columbia	" 11—15
South-Carolina Institute,	Charleston	" 17—22

COUNTY SHOWS FOR 1856.

NEW-YORK.

Madison,	Munnsville	Sept. 8—10
Chatauque,	Westfield	" 10—11
Onondaga,	Syracuse	" 10—12
Putnam,	Lake Mahopac	" 16—17
Rensselaer,	Lansingburg	" 16—18
Jefferson,	Watertown	" 17—18
Oswego,	Mexico	" 17—18
Cayuga,	Auburn	" 17—19
Cattaraugus,	Little Valley	" 17—19
Washington,	Union Village	" 17—18
St. Lawrence,	Canton	" 17—19
Essex,	Elizabethtown	" 18—19
Albany,	Albany	" 23—25
Cortland,	Homer	" 23—25
Wayne,	Lyons	" 23—25
Oneida,	Rome	" 23—25
Tioga,	Owego	" 24—25
Delaware,	Walton	" 24—25
Columbia,	Chatham	" 24—26
Franklin,	Malone	" 24—26
Monroe,	Rochester	" 24—26
Ontario,	Canandaigua	" 24—26
Queens,	Hempstead	" 25—
Orleans,	Albion	" 25—26
Rockland,	New-City	Oct. 8—9
Steuben,	Bath	" 8—9
Schuyler,	Watkins	" 8—9
Seneca,	Waterloo	" 8—10
Allegany,	Whitney's Valley	Oct. 14—15

CONNECTICUT.

Litchfield,	Litchfield	Sept. 16—18
Windham,	Brooklyn	" 19—20
Fairfield,	Norwalk	" 23—26
New-London,	Norwich	" 24—25
Hartford,	Hartford	Sept. 30—Oct. 3
Middlesex,	Middletown	Oct. 1—3

MASSACHUSETTS.

Middlesex North,	Chelmsford	Sept. 17—
Middlesex South,	Framingham	" 17—18
Worcester West,	Barre	" 18—
Worcester North,	Fitchburg	" 19—
Middlesex,	Concord	" 20—
Plymouth,	Bridgewater	" 24—25
Worcester,	Worcester	" 24—25
Housatonic,	Great Barrington	" 24—25
Norfolk,	Dedham	Sept. 30—Oct. 1
Essex,	Newburyport	Oct. 1—2
Worcester South,	Sturbridge	" 1—2
Franklin,	Greenfield	" 1—2
Bristol,	Fall River	" 1—2
Hampden,	Springfield	" 1—3
Berkshire,	Pittsfield	" 1—3
Barnstable,	Barnstable	" 7—8
Hampshire, Franklin & Hampden,	Northam'n	" 7—8
Hampshire,	Amherst	" 9—10

NEW-JERSEY

Camden,	Haddonfield	Sept. 16—
Mercer	Hightstown	" 17—18
Hunterdon,	Flemington	" 17—19
Salem,	Salem	" 18—
Monmouth,	Freehold	" 24—25
Burlington,	Mount Holly	Sept. 30—Oct. 1
Cumberland,	Bridgeton	Oct. 1—
Somerset,	Somerville	" 1—2

OHIO.

Trumbull,	Warren	" 9—11
Hamilton,	Carthage	Sept. 9—12
Brown,	Georgetown	" 9—12
Geauga,	Burton	" 10—12
Conneaut,	Conneaut	" 11—12
Medina,	Medina	" 15—17
Meigs,	Pomeroy	" 16—17
Clermont,	Olive Branch	" 16—19
Ashtabula,	Jefferson	" 17—18
Portage,	Ravenna	" 17—18
Madison,	London	" 17—19
Franklin,	Columbus	" 17—19
Geauga, (Independent)	Claridon	" 17—19
Butler,	Hamilton	" 17—19
Knox,	Mount Vernon	" 18—19
Lawrence,	Ironton	" 18—19
Union Agricultural,	Huntington	" 18—19
Lorain, Ind.	Elyria	" 18—19
Hardin,	Kenton	" 23—25
Monroe,	Woodsfield	" 26—27
Putnam,	Kalida	Oct. 1—2
Ashland,	Ashland	" 1—2
Miami,	Troy	" 1—2
Jefferson,	Steubenville	" 1—3
Huron,	Olena	" 1—3
Belmont,	St. Clairsville	" 1—3
Darke,	Greenville	" 1—3
Sandusky,	Fremont	" 1—3
Muskingum,	Zanesville	" 1—3
Delaware,	Delaware	" 1—3
Richland,	Mansfield	" 1—3
Erie,	Huron	" 1—3
Clark,	Springfield	" 1—3
Lake,	Painesville	" 1—3
Morgan,	McConnellsville	" 1—3
Greene,	Xenia	" 1—3
Stark,	Massillon	" 1—3
Holmes,	Millersburg	" 2—3
Highland,	Hillsboro'	" 2—3
Wayne,	Wooster	" 6—8
Williams,	Bryan	" 7—8
Cuyahoga,	Cleveland	" 7—9
Mahoning,	Canfield	" 7—9
Warren,	Lebanon	" 7—9
Montgomery,	Dayton	" 7—9
Licking,	Newark	" 8—9
Ottaway,	Port Clinton	" 8—9
Harrison,	Cadiz	" 8—10
Preble,	Eaton	" 8—10
Summit,	Akron	" 8—10
Loraine,	Elyria	" 8—10
Champagne,	Urbana	" 8—10
Washington,	Marietta	" 8—10
Guernsey,	Cambridge	" 9—10
Ross,	Chillicothe	" 9—10
Hancock,	Finley	" 9—10
Columbiana,	New Lisbon	" 9—11
Morrow,	Mount Gilead	" 9—11
Clinton,	Wilmington	" 10—11
Logan,	Bellefontaine	" 14—16
Pickaway,	Circleville	" 15—17
Adams,	West Union	" 15—17
Crawford,	Bucyrus	" 16—17
Union,	Marysville	" 16—17
Coshocton,	Coshocton	" 16—18
Noble,	Sarahsville	" 16—18
Tuscarawas,	Canal Dover	" 16—18
Seneca,	Tiffin	" 22—24
Carroll,	Carrollton	" 28—30

MICHIGAN.

Morgan,	Jacksonville	Sept. 16—19
St. Clair,	Belleville	" 17—18
Du Page,	Wheaton	" 17—18
Mason,	Havana	" 17—19
Stark,	Toulon	" 19—20
Crawford,	Robinson	" 22—24
Lasalle,	Ottowa	" 23—25
Winnebago,	Rockford	" 23—25
Kane,	Geneva	" 23—25
Sangamon,	Springfield	" 23—26
Kendall,	Plano	——
Union,	Jonesboro'	" 24—25
Tazwell,	Tremont	" 24—25
McLean,	Bloomington	" 24—26
Buel Institute,	Peru	Oct. 7—9
Rock Island,	——	" 8—9
Marshall,	Lacon	" 8—9
Lawrence.	Lawrenceville	" 10—11
Ogle,	Byron	" 21—22

IOWA.

Henry,	Mt. Pleasant	Sept. 26—29
Jefferson,	Fairfield	Oct. 1—2
Washington,	Washington	" 1—2
Lee,	West Point	" 1—3
Van Buren,	Keosaqua	" ——

KENTUCKY.

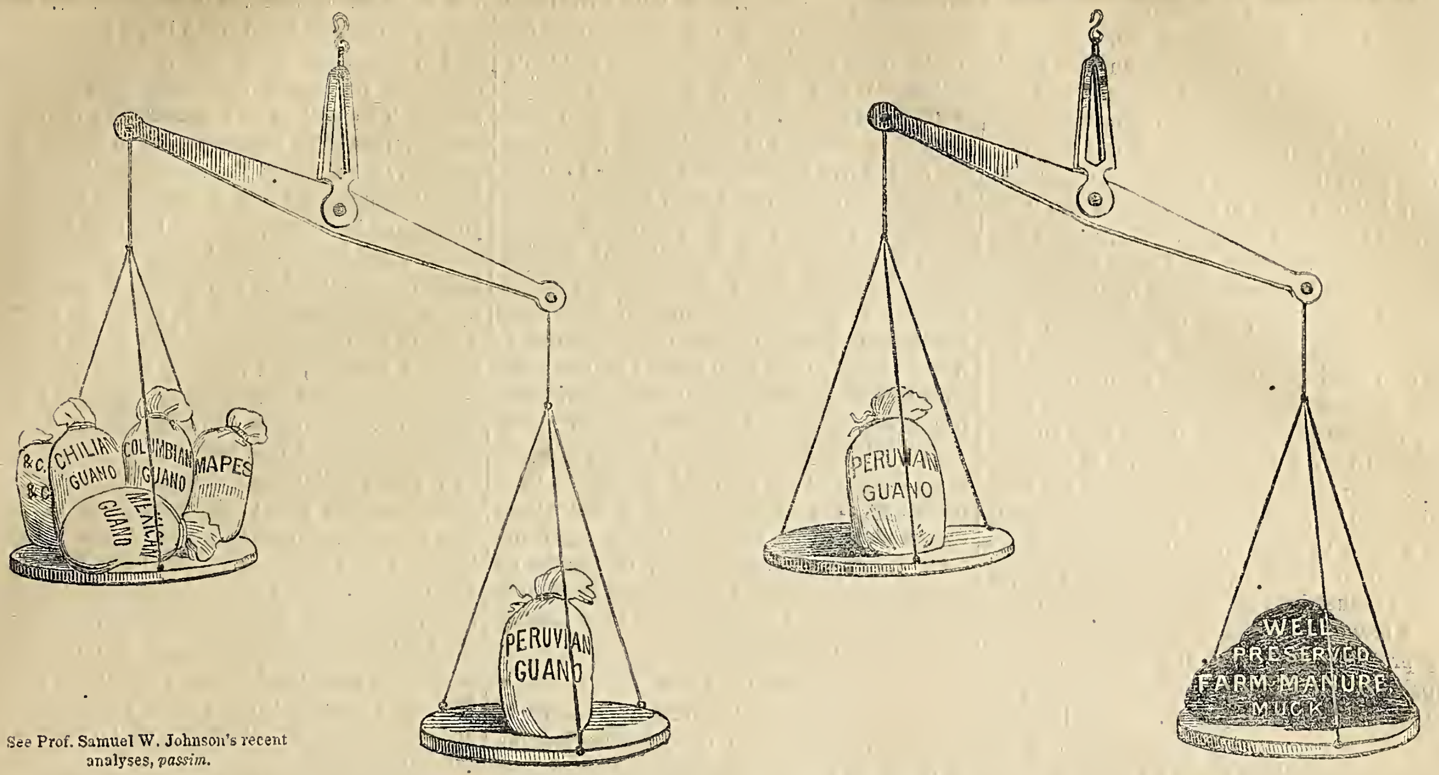
Lexington,	Lexington	Sept. 9—13
Harrison,	Cynthiana	" 16—19
Germantown,	Germantown	" 23—26
Logan,	Russellville	Oct. 1—3
Union,	Eminence	" 7—10
Northern Kentucky,	Florence	" 7—11
Southwestern,	Louisville	" 14—18

MISSOURI.

Callaway,	——	Sept. 23—26
Cass,	Pleasant Hill	" 23—26
St. Louis,	St. Louis	" 23—27
Boone,	——	Sept. 30—Oct. 3
South Western,	Springfield	Oct. 1—
Central Missouri,	Boonville	" 6—10
Ray,	Richmond	" 15—18
South East,	Jackson	" 16—18

MARYLAND.

Montgomery,	Rockville	Sept. 10—



See Prof. Samuel W. Johnson's recent analyses, *passim*.

AGRICULTURAL SCALES.

FISH PIE.

This is the favorite name of a compost of fish and muck or loam in some parts of Long Island. As this is the season in which this interesting dish is prepared, we have a few remarks upon it. The name of the compost is not so wide of the mark as it might be, for it is the *raw material* of vegetable and fruit pies. The compost at the root of apple and pear trees, around strawberry vines, raspberry and blackberry bushes, will be transmuted into splendid fruits the first season. The great fault in the manufacture of the pie is too much body and too little crust. Indeed, we have rarely met with a fish compost that was satisfactorily made. Some farmers prepare it by simply plowing up a strip of turf under the wall, dropping the fish, and covering them with a single layer of sods, not more than six or eight inches deep. This is altogether too slight, and a large part of the ammonia is lost.

We have just completed a compost heap that we suppose to be right, from the fact that little or no smell of ammonia has arisen from it. We first put upon the ground a layer of mirish turf, eight or ten inches thick, packed as closely as possible. The surface was so large that nine thousand fish scattered over it thinly, barely covered it. Upon this layer of fish we put about a foot of marsh muck; then eight thousand fish, another layer of muck, a third layer of fish, and a top layer of muck, at least eighteen inches thick. The heap as completed is about four feet high, and measures about thirty cords. A few worms worked out at the sides for a few days, but the effluvia was confined. The twenty-five thousand fish cost us twenty dollars upon the shore, and the muck the labor of digging it. The heap will need forking over once or twice, and when completed will be worth sixty dollars at least. The value of the muck as it lay in the bed, and the labor expended, we estimate at twenty dollars, leaving twenty dollars profit. All the fish is saved, and the muck is well cured by the decomposition.

We are confident that shore farmers can not get their fertilizers any cheaper than by making fish compost. Where large quantities of muck are used with the fish, the land will not become exhausted, or be overrun with sorrel. It is better to use a portion of the muck in this way, rather than to cast it all into the farm-yard. It saves the expense of once carting, to make the compost heap upon the ground where it is to be used. We would make about one heap for an acre of ground, and put a cord or two of muck to every thousand fish. Upon light sandy or gravelly loams, we are confident this compost will do much better service than any concentrated fertilizer. Shore farmers, who have plenty of muck upon their premises, are inexcusable for neglecting fish pie.—[Ed.

EDITOR'S FARM NOTES,

OR GLEANINGS AMONG PRACTICAL MEN.

Eastern Connecticut—Stonington—Fisher's Island for sale, a fine opening for capital in gardening, &c.—The Thames River—Farming in Quinebaug Valley, &c.

We recently took a trip through the counties of New London and Windham, Ct., and present an abstract from our "notes." On every hand there is evidence of new ideas abroad among the people. Stonington, the southeast corner town of this State, has a hard granite soil, but it yields very abundantly under good cultivation. It is admirably adapted to the cultivation of Indian corn, and we have no where met with better looking crops of this grain than are now standing upon these fields. An unusually large breadth is planted this year, and in some instances the fields come down to the edge of tide water. This town is so nearly surrounded with water, and is so indented with coves and bays, that it possesses remarkable facilities for manuring its soils. Immense quantities of sea-weed are thrown upon the shores, and upon the adjacent islands, and it is gathered and carried back three or four miles from the shore. Upon the shore farms this is sometimes spread green upon the turf and plowed in, but more generally is carted into the yard as an absorbent of the gases of stable manure. Farmers who live more remote from the water secure the weed in scows by raking the flats upon which it grows. It is then floated up to the head of the coves, and carted directly from the scow to the barnyard. The most of the weed taken in this way is secured in August and in the fall months.

Besides this valuable fertilizer, the town has inexhaustible supplies of marsh mud and peat bogs. These are used to some extent, and give great satisfaction to those who have tried them most largely. But the cheapest and best fertilizer is the fish which swarm along the coast all through the summer and autumn. They take the porgies early in the season, and these are used in the hill for potatoes or for corn. The moss bunkers come early in June, and are taken in immense quantities, a single seine often catching a hundred thousand in a day. These are used, applied to the growing crops in the manner noticed in the last number of the Agriculturist, and composted with muck in large quantities. These compost heaps will be spread and plowed in next spring.

FISHER'S ISLAND.

As you take the steamer from Stonington to Norwich, you observe on the south of your route this beautiful island, which has been in the possession of the Winthrop family since the first settlement of the country. It is a good illustration of the wretched policy of holding land in large tracts and leaving it to take care of itself. There are some five thousand acres of land upon the island, and a part of it is of the first quality. Surrounded by the sea, and indented with safe harbors, it has the means of bringing the soil into the highest state of fertility. It has been skinned and re-skinned, and yet it is very productive. Owing to the poor tillage, it suffers very much from drouth in dry seasons. We learn that this island is for sale, and we do not know of a prettier enterprize for a man of capital, who has a taste for rural pursuits, than to purchase it, and people it with industrious laborers. There are now but a few small farm houses, accommodating probably less than fifty persons. It is capable of supporting over a thousand people in comfort and plenty. It is just the spot for a community of gardeners to locate. All the island could be profitably cultivated in small fruits to supply the New York market. The strawberry, raspberry and blackberry flourish along the neighboring shore in the greatest luxuriance, and if plantations were made of these fruits, they would ripen just after the Jersey and Long Island gardens, and would prolong the season of these delicious fruits. We would cut up the island into small homesteads of ten or twelve acres, and rent or sell as suited the means and wishes of the settler. We would bring the settlers from Europe. This speculation is projected for the benefit of any of our amateur gardeners who have plenty of capital, and want to make a good investment.

PEQUONNOC PLAIN.

On the north of the route you spy a windmill near the mouth of the Pequonnoc river. This mill pumps water for an oil factory. Vast quantities of moss bunkers are caught in the adjacent waters along the coast, and are here made into oil, and the refuse fish sold to the farmers for manure. On either side of the river are extensive plains spread out, once excellent land, but now run out with hard cropping. The fish are completely transforming it. Great crops of potatoes, corn and other cereals are grown wherever the fish are applied. This factory has quickened the farming interest throughout the neighborhood.

WATERING PLACES.

All along the shores, from New London to Watch Hill, hotels have been put up within a few years for the accommodation of summer guests. On the west side of New London harbor is the Pequod House, a first class establishment, well filled with select company. On the east side are the Griswold House and the Ocean House. At Bradford's Island a new house has been put up the past winter, and is now well filled. Two miles up the Mystic river they have two hotels for summer visitors. At Stonington they have three, and at Watch Hill two large houses uncomfortably full during the hot weather. Two lines of steamers run daily between Watch Hill and Norwich, touching at all these places. The distance from Norwich to Stonington is about thirty miles, and the fare is five cents. The travel of course is abundant, and the hotels are reaping a harvest. These places of summer resort are a direct benefit to the adjacent farming interest. They bring down to the shore perhaps a thousand or two of additional population from all parts of the country, who have to be fed with the fat of the land. This makes a brisk market for butter, eggs, fruits, vegetables and meats. The only way a man outside of the charmed circle of these good livers can get sight of a chicken or a fresh egg, is to keep them in a show case for exhibition, or to grow them upon his own premises. Every thing is bought up beforehand. It makes living more expensive in the cities and villages, but is a mighty nice thing for the farmers.

THAMES RIVER

is some sixteen miles from its mouth to Norwich, at the head of sloop navigation. It is one of the most picturesque streams in New England, and were the tide of travel upon it like that upon the Hudson, it would be as well known and as much appreciated for its peculiar beauties. The scenery along its banks is not so grand as that of the Hudson. There are no Palisades or lofty mountains, but on every side rugged granite hills, now covered with forest, and now cropping out in bare rock. There is no extensive tract of interval, as along the Connecticut or the Hudson, but on the whole length of the stream the hills push boldly into the water. The valley is sparsely settled with farmers. There are many beautiful sites for country residences along this river, and the day is not distant when they will be occupied. It is a part of the thoroughfare between New York and Boston, and is within easy distance of both these cities.

The farms in this valley are among the best in the county. The premium crop of Indian corn was grown here, measuring one hundred and eleven bushels to the acre. The river furnishes large quantities of sea weed and fish, and it only needs more capital expended in manures to bring the farms here to the highest state of fertility.

THE VALLEY OF THE QUINEBAUG.

Leaving the steamer at Norwich, we take the railroad up through this valley. The Quinebaug is a model stream for manufacturers, and is pretty well improved, though there are several spots where the whole power of the stream is unused. There is a large fall near its mouth, and another at Jewett City, that are waiting for capital to turn the water upon the wheels and put the spindles in motion. Several manufacturing villages have been built up in this valley, Jewett City, Central Village, Danielsonville, Wauregan, Dayville, &c. These are thriving villages, and afford good markets for the products of the neighboring farms.

LISBON

is the lowest town on the Quinebaug, and lies between it and the Shetucket. It is mainly a farming town, with but a small village in the north part. Its population has remained stationary for more than thirty years. The soil is not remarkably fertile, and requires good management to make it productive. Charles Tracy's farm lies immediately upon the line of the road. He has put up fine buildings, perhaps the best in the county, and has expended large sums in the improvement of his soil. He is making many experiments, and is doing a good work in his neighborhood. His crops were looking grandly, and we very much wanted to alight from the iron horse and spend a day with him. There is little bottom land in the lower part of this valley. It is mostly light sandy soil on which rye, white beans, potatoes, corn and buckwheat yield small crops without manure. The lands along the road lie remote from the farm houses, and the crops have been gathered and carried home from time immemorial, so that the land is now exhausted. It is on these lands that guano can be used with most profit. This and the turning in of green crops are worthy of the attention of farmers in this town. We commend to their notice the experiment of Mr. Lockwood, recorded in our last issue under the head of "Buckwheat as a Green Crop." The soil of this valley is naturally adapted to rye, and it only needs higher tillage to bring it back to its original fertility. Lisbon has a few good farmers who take the papers, and are putting in practice better methods of husbandry. H. L. Read, the efficient Secretary of the New London County Agricultural Society, resides here, and is successful in vegetable gardening and fruit culture, as well as in field crops. We see frequent evidence of progress in the muck heaps and drained lands, and in the luxuriant crops upon fields, that a few years since were barren sheep pastures.

The County Society is vigorous, and its influence is felt for good in every township and every rural parish. There is a new interest among farmers, and their sons begin to look upon farm life with complacency. We hope the tide has turned here, and that these parishes will be able to retain a larger portion of their youth at home. Our notes on Windham county we must reserve.—[Ed.

A Punctuated Retraction.—A member of the English Parliament having charged an officer of the Government with dishonesty, was required to retract it before the House of Commons, which he did in the following words: "I said he was dishonest, it is true; and I am sorry for it." This was pronounced satisfactory, but he managed to have the printed report of the transaction read thus: "I said he was dishonest; it is true, and I am sorry for it."

Another Retraction.—An officer having become offended at another, said of him: "He is not fit to carry garbage to swine." He was called upon by officer No. 2, who required him to retract his statement. "I will take it back," said he, "and I now say you are just fitted for such an occupation."

THE VALUE OF SWAMP MUCK.

There are comparatively few farms that do not contain invaluable beds of peat, muck, or deposits of decaying vegetable matter of some kind. Those even upon the summit or sides of hills, almost invariably furnish occasional low spots, into which the washings of higher ground have settled from year to year. These masses of black earth are made up of organic materials, such as decayed or decaying leaves, roots, and fibres of grass, &c.

It is now admitted by all experienced and intelligent cultivators, that such substances furnish a direct pabulum or food to the roots of all growing plants, and it is of the highest importance to every farmer who would thrive in his business, to hunt up and use all such materials. This dry weather furnishes the most favorable opportunity for digging out muck from the low swamps, which, from being filled with standing water, are inaccessible during most of the year.

This work should be attended to *now*, and not put off until sowing winter crops occupy the whole farm force, or till the fall rains stop this work for the year. Where it is at all practicable, we advise every farmer to dig out and heap up to dry, at least five loads of swamp muck, or black vegetable mold, for each load of manure he expects to produce for twelve months to come. If dry, it is an excellent material to put freely into the stables at all times, to absorb liquid manures, as well as the gaseous products of all solid animal excrements. One load of horse or cow droppings thus mixed, and composted with three loads of good black muck, is quite as valuable as two, or even three loads of the same manure not thus treated. Mr. C. L. Flint, the able Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, introduced into a recent report to the Board, some valuable information on this subject. He says: "The term *muck* is generally applied by New England farmers to the mass of vegetable matter usually found in peat-swamps; by English farmers to rotting straw, &c., and by Scotch farmers to barn-yard manure." Mr. F. uses the word in its common signification in this country, referring to the remains of trees and plants, some of which must have lived ages ago more or less perfectly decomposed, and sometimes extending to a depth of many feet. This substance is made up of different constituents in different localities, and its quality is therefore very variable. Hence we find a great variety of opinions as to the value of swamp muck as a manure. The various estimates of the value of swamp muck range from 33 cents to $3 per cord, and give an average of $1 27; and as there is no reason to suppose that the estimated value is not the real value in each locality, it follows that no general real value can be definitely fixed. This depends on its quality.

Swamp muck is often cold and sour, and requires the addition of lime and exposure to the atmosphere and to frosts before it can be advantageously applied as manure. There are different modes of preparing it for use. The most common is to dig it out, expose it to the frost through the winter, and then put it into the barn-yard to be composted with the stable manure. The following statements are from experienced, practical men in Massachusetts, and each gives the results of the observation of its writer:

A Middlesex farmer says: "I use swamp muck most successfully, composted with stable manure, on different varieties of soils, but think it does best on high land of a loamy soil. I notice it is used very extensively by farmers, with satisfactory results, when composted with other manures thoroughly."

A farmer of Worcester county says: "I use it extensively on my hard, clay soils; it works well on dry lands to keep them moist, and on clay soils to keep them light." Another writer from Dukes county follows: "It should be hauled out in the fall, and exposed to the frost during winter, and mixed with stable manure in the proportion of two parts muck to one of manure; it should also be used in the hog-pen, barn-yard and barn-cellar. I have found it a good manure on loamy, gravelly and sandy land, especially for top-dressing for grass, when composted as above." A Norfolk county farmer, who had met with great success, says: "The best way of using swamp muck is to dig it and expose it to the sun, air and rains one year, and then, when in a dry state, place it in a barn-cellar, where it will take the droppings of the cattle above, until it is thoroughly saturated; then mix it well, and it is ready for use. It is good for all dry lands. He estimates it at about three dollars by the cord of one hundred and two bushels." A Middlesex farmer of great experience states that "swamp muck is of different qualities, and varies as much as wood when used for fuel. Peat mud, the older the better, consists principally of vegetable matter. It has most effect on high and dry ground. Wood ashes are the best article to correct its acidity."

Similar acounts come from every section of the State. From Hampshire county, we have the following: "The best method of using swamp muck, judging from experiments of my neighbors and my own, is to cart out in the autumn, expose it to the frosts and snows, then spread and plow it in the spring, on sandy, dry soils, or in other words, on soils of an opposite nature to its own. I plowed in twenty-five loads on one-quarter of an acre, last spring, and planted it to early potatoes, corn, peas, cucumbers, squashes and melons. It was a great preventive against drouth. That ground has been sown to rye, and it looks first rate." And from Plymouth county: "Swamp muck, as also upland soils, are valuable to mix with various kinds of manure to retain and absorb the salts. For upwards of two years I have adopted a different course with my swamp land from any I know of. I employ men with long-bitted hoes, sward hooks, &c., to dig up the hummocks and bushes, in bodies large and small, as is convenient, and pile them in bunches for a few days to dry, after which, I select a central bunch, in which I form a cavity or hole near the bottom or surface of the ground. Then I set fire to some of the dryest and most combustible, and as it burns, I replenish it from the other bunches, smothering in the coal-pit form, though more combustible, till it burned down to a perfect body of ashes and sand. I have not carried the experiment into full effect, as I designed to; but so far as I have used the ashes, they have given me entire satisfaction. Their nature is to improve exhausted lands; and my belief is, that they may be spread upon the same land upon which the ashes were made, and increase the growth of English grass. Much has been said upon the subject of reclaiming wet swampy lands; but after all that has been done, as I understand it, a coat of manure is required to produce a good crop of English grass. Now, if our worthless swamp lands possess the very article required to produce such grass by the simple process above named, I think it would be an improvement in one point of agriculture."

A farmer of Barnstable county says: "The best compost manure is made in our barn and hog-yards, of swamp muck, sea-weed and animal manure. Swamp muck and sea-weed are accessible to all who will take the trouble to procure them. My barn and hog-yards are so excavated and dug as to absorb the liquids passed into them. Every spring and summer, after my barn-yard is emptied, I replenish it from time to time with swamp muck, peat, sea-weed, and other materials from the farm, which, with the animal manure produced by yarding my cattle, furnish me in the autumn with two hundred loads of good compost, which I either stack in the yard, or cart on to the land I intend to plant in the spring. I again replenish the yard, giving me, with the proceeds of my hog-yard, from one hundred to one hundred and fifty loads more in the following spring. In addition, I have for two years past composted, in the field adjoining my peat bog, from seventy-five to one hundred loads of peat (thrown from the pit in summer or autumn) with sea and rock-weed, or ashes and animal manure, which I esteem of equal value to barn-yard manure. I estimate the value of a cord, or four ox-cart loads of barn-yard manure, composted as above, at from $4 to $5. We esteem the value of this for a corn crop, and the improvement of land higher than pure animal manure."

We give one more extract from a farmer of Berkshire county. He says; "I have used swamp muck for a number of years past with good results, by mixing it with yard and stable manures in the proportion of one-third to one-half muck, and consider it worth $1 per load to use for agricultural purposes on soils that are a mixture of loam and gravel."

The testimony is uniformly in favor of composting muck with other manures. Its power of absorbing valuable liquid and gaseous substances is very considerable, and this makes it an excellent substance to mix with guano when the latter is to be used as a top-dressing. The importance of a free use of dry swamp muck as an absorbent of the liquid manures of the barn and stable can hardly be over-estimated. The loss throughout the State from the neglect and consequent waste of these rich manures, which, with a little care, might all be saved, is almost incredible. The attention of farmers was but lately called to the subject; but the value of the substances is acknowledged by some, and efforts are now being made to save them by means of the use of muck and loam, either properly composted in the barn-cellar, or supplied daily to the stalls of cattle. No judicious farmer should neglect to save all such substances as tend to increase the value and productiveness of his lands. It is poor economy and bad calculation to buy concentrated manures, or buy any manures abroad, till everything of the kind is saved at home.

From what has been said, we may infer that good swamp muck is worth on an average from $1 25 to $1 50 per cord, and that it is best on light, loamy, sandy, or gravelly soils, and that it is valuable as a compost with barn-yard manures, or with guano.

TEA FOR SICK HORSES.

Linseed tea is not only a valuable restorative for sick horses, but it is exceedingly useful in diseases of inflammation of the membranes peculiar to the organs of respiration and digestion; it shields and lubricates the same, tranquilizes the irritable state of the parts, and favors healthy action. We have prescribed linseed tea in large quantities during the past month for horses laboring under the prevailing influenza; they seemed to derive much benefit from it, and generally drank it with avidity. Aside from the benefit derived from the action of mucilage and oil, which the seed contains, its nutritive elements are of some account, especially when given to animals laboring under soreness in the organs of deglutition, which incapacitates them from swallowing more solid food. In the event of an animal becoming prostrated by inability to masticate or swallow more food, linseed tea may be resorted to, and in cases of irritable cough, the addition of a little honey makes it still more useful. In the latter form, it may be given to animals laboring under acute or chronic diseases of the urinary apparatus, more especially of the kidneys.

To Prepare Linseed Tea.—Put a couple of handfulls of the seed into a bucket, and pour a gallon and a half of boiling hot water upon it. Cover it up a short time; then add a couple of quarts of cold water, when it will be fit for use.—[Amer. Vet. Journal.

"Why," said a country clergyman to one of his flock, "do you always sleep in your pew when I am in the pulpit, while you are all attention to every stranger I invite?" "Because, sir, when you preach, I'm sure all's right; but I can't trust a stranger without keeping a good look out."

To know everything of something is better than to know something of everything.

A RELIC OF THE past.

HARVESTING POTATOES.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

I wish some of your numerous readers would furnish their experience as to the best way of harvesting, or rather securing potatoes, especially in years of extreme rot. I will set the ball in motion by giving a little of my own experience.

I have worked a farm over fifty years, and have cultivated potatoes more or less every year. Fifty years ago little was thought of this root. A row or two were planted on the outside of corn-fields, or in some corner of a lot unfit for anything else. Ten to fifteen bushels was an ample supply for a family. There is a great difference between then and now as regards this crop, for potatoes are now one of the most important branches of Agriculture.

But we have lost much of this valuable crop of late years by the rot. For a number of years I have harvested between four and five thousand bushels. Last Fall I lost over *half* of them before they were sold in the city of New-York.

There are different methods of harvesting, depending upon the time of digging, and mode of securing afterwards. I will notice three only.

First—I commence digging the first week in October, putting them in heaps of 30 to 40 bushels each, and covering them with straw and two or three inches of soil. They are left in this condition until the first of November, when I commence loading upon boats for market. The difficulty experienced in this method is that they heat, especially when much affected with the rot, and the heating hastens the decay.

Second—They may be left in the ground undug, until late in the season, or until near the time when the ground closes for the Winter. There are two objections to this course. The potatoes near the surface or partly out are quite liable to get frost-bitten, which increases the rot; and then there is not time enough left to secure a large crop before Winter sets in as far north as latitude 44°.

Third—They may be dug in September, when the rot first makes its appearance, and dried well in the sun, and then be spread on barn floors or other dry places for four or five weeks. This plan, if it prevents the rot, is an injury to the potatoe and reduces their real value ten or twelve per cent. They should be kept from air and light as much as possible.

Any information or advice that yourself or any of your correspondents may give on this subject will be of general value, and will be thankfully received by

An Old Farmer.

Crown Point, Essex Co., N. Y.,
August 11, 1856.

The above is an important topic. Will not a number of our readers who have had experience in raising and marketing potatoes, please send us their suggestions at an early day, so that we may give something from them on this subject in our next number? We are glad to hear from all our readers with regard to their farm experiences, and particularly so from those whose observations, like those of our correspondent, extend over a long life of agricultural labor.—[Ed.

TIM BUNKER ON SUBSOILING.

It has been stirring times in Hookertown recently, on account of the advent of the subsoil plow. Deacon Smith had one last spring, and if Barnum's elephant had come along with it, the team would not have made half the talk the plow made. Elephants they had all seen or heard of at the menagerie, as a kind of monster never designed to run in opposition to horses or any other farm team. But a subsoil plow was "a new fangled consarn that the deacon was gwine to poke into the yaller dirt to astonish the natives." It was entirely contrary to all well established notions in this venerable community, and was looked upon as an intruder.

The deacon's barn-yard was a scene for a painter when the neighbors dropped in to examine the new tool. Tim Bunker was there of course, and Jotham Sparrowgrass, Seth Twigs the smoker, John Tinker, and Tom Jones.

Esquire Bunker's views were not very definite as to the construction of the plow, and he wanted to know.

"Why, Deacon, where is the mold-board?"

"I should not wonder if it screwed on," responded Mr. Twigs, half inquiringly.

"Now what do you call that ere article?" asked Tom Jones.

"It is a mighty lean looking consarn, ain't it?" says John Tinker.

"And I guess the crops it will make will be leaner," chimed in Jotham Sparrowgrass. "You see, Deacon, I know all about these subsoilers. They tried an experiment when I was a boy, over on the island. You know Ben Miller got a notion in his head that the fish manure all leached down into the sile and that was the reason why we did not get any better crops after we had used them few years. So he took his old plain lot, and plowed two furrows in a place, and turned up the biggest sight of yaller dirt you ever laid eyes on. It looked for all the world like so many acres of Scotch snuff. The result was that he planted corn there, and did not get ten bushels to the acre. The land was spilt, and it is of no use to talk to me about stirring the subsile."

Argument of course was out of the question, and the Deacon showed his good sense by leaving the plow to speak for itself. He subsoiled a field properly, and planted with corn. He also induced Tim Bunker to try it on a patch of his garden where he was purposing to plant carrots and melons.

The month of July brought a drouth in Hookertown. Uncle Jotham's garden felt it severely, and he had plenty of neighbors to sympathize with him in his lamentations over withered vegetables.

Tim Bunker called him into his garden one day as he was passing.

"See here, I want you to look at my carrots, and see how green they are where I used the Deacon's subsoil plow. They are growing now as fast as if they had a plenty of rain, and over there is a piece in John Tinker's garden that looks as if the lightning had struck it. He put on a good deal more manure than I did, and you see the difference."

"Who would have thought it!" exclaimed Uncle Jotham. "I guess you have put on water."

"Have you seen the Deacon's garden? It is all as green as a leek, and nobody would think there had been no rain for three weeks. You see there is no getting round the facts, and I have made up my mind to try a subsoil plow this fall. It must be a great thing to guard crops against drouth, and I shall try it on the piece of land that I sow with rye."

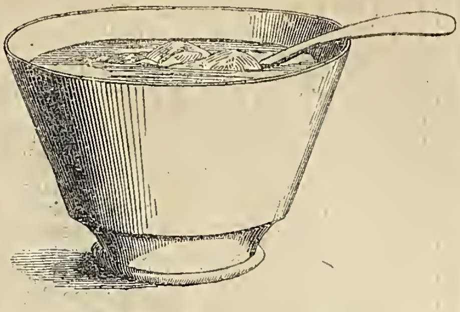
Jotham Sparrowgrass was much less voluble than usual during the call, and went home soliloquizing, "Wonder if Tim Bunker did water them carrots!"—[Ed.

The Hasty Pudding.—We hesitated for some time before giving the necessary space for this famous old poem, but we have had sundry enquiries respecting it, and we suspect many of our readers have not chanced to meet with it. To some, the first few lines may appear dry, but no one will read through the first half and stop there.—[Ed.

An advertisement in an Irish paper lately, setting forth the many conveniences and advantages to be derived from metal window sashes, among other particulars observed, "that these sashes would last *for ever;* and afterwards, if the owner had no use for them, they might be sold for *old iron.*"

The Emperor of China, instead of paying the doctor as we do when we are unwell, the instant he is taken ill stops the pay of his physician, and does not renew it until he is quite well again.

The handsomest flower is not the sweetest.



THE HASTY-PUDDING.

Written at Chamrery, in Savoy, France, January, 1793.

BY JOEL BARLOW,

Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States.

CANTO I.

Ye Alps audacious, thro' the heavens that rise,
To cramp the day and hide me from the skies;
Ye Gallic flags that o'er their heights unfurl'd,
Bear death to kings, and freedom to the world,
I sing not you. A softer theme I choose,
A virgin theme, unconscious of the Muse,
But fruitful rich, well suited to inspire
The purest frenzy of poetic fire.

Despise it not, ye Bards to terror steel'd,
Who hurl'd your thunders round the epic field;
Nor ye who strain your midnight throats to sing
Joys that the vineyard and the still-house bring;
Or on some distant fair your notes employ,
And speak of raptures that you ne'er enjoy.
I sing the sweets I know, the charms I feel,
My morning incense, and my evening meal,
The sweets of Hasty-Pudding. Come, dear bowl,
Glide o'er my palate, and inspire my soul.
The milk beside thee, smoking from the kine,
Its substance mingled, married it with thine,
Shall cool and temper thy superior heat,
And save the pains of blowing while I eat.

Oh! could the smooth, the emblematic song
Flow like the genial juices o'er my tongue,
Could those mild morsels in my numbers chime,
And as they roll in substance, roll in rhyme,
No more thy awkward unpoetic name,
Should shun the Muse, or prejudice thy fame;
But, rising grateful to th' accustom'd ear,
All bards should catch it, and all realms revere!

Assist me first with pious toil to trace,
Thro' wrecks of time thy lineage and thy race;
Declare what lovely squaw, in days of yore,
(Ere great Columbus sought thy native shore,)
First gave thee to the world; her works of fame
Have liv'd indeed, but liv'd without a name.
Some tawny Ceres, goddess of her days,
First learn'd with stones to crack the well-dry'd maize,
Thro' the rough sieve to shake the golden show'r
In boiling water stir the yellow flour—
The yellow flour, bestrew'd and stirr'd with haste,
Swells in the flood and thickens to a paste,
Then puffs and wallops, rises to the brim,
Drinks the dry knobs that on the surface swim;
The knobs at last the busy ladle breaks,
And the whole mass its true consistence takes.

Could but her sacred name, unknown so long,
Rise like her labors, to the son of song,
To her, to them, I'd consecrate my lays,
And blow her pudding with the breath of praise
If 'twas Oella, whom I sang before,
I here ascribe her one great virtue more.
Nor thro' the rich Peruvian realms alone
The fame of Sol's sweet daughter should be known
But o'er the world's wide climes should live secure
Far as his rays extend, as long as they endure.

Dear Hasty-Pudding, what unpromised joy
Expands my heart, to meet thee in Savoy!
Doom'd o'er the world thro' devious paths to roam
Each clime my country, and each house my home,
My soul is sooth'd, my cares have found an end,
I greet my long-lost, unforgotten friend.

For thee thro' Paris, that corrupted town,
How long in vain I wander'd up and down,
Where shameless Bacchus, with his drenching hoard
Cold from his cave, usurps the morning board.
London is lost in smoke and steep'd in tea;
No Yankee there can lisp the name of thee;
The uncouth word, a libel on the town,
Would call a proclamation from the crown.*
From climes oblique, that fear the sun's full rays,
Chill'd in their fogs, exclude the gen'rous maize;
A grain whose rich luxuriant growth requires
Short gentle showers, and bright etherial fires.

But here, tho' distant from our native shore,
With mutual glee we meet and laugh once more
The same! I know thee by that yellow face,
That strong complexion of true Indian race,
Which time can never change, nor soil impair,
Nor Alpine snows, nor Turkey's morbid air;
For endless years, thro' every mild domain,
Where grows the maize, there thou art sure to reign.

But man, more fickle, the bold license claims,
In different realms to give thee different names.
Thee the soft nations round the warm Levant
Polanta call, the French, of course, *Polante;*
Ev'n in thy native regions, how I blush
To hear the Pennsylvanians call thee *Mush!*
On Hudson's banks, while men of Belgic spawn
Insult and eat thee by the name *Suppawn.*
All spurious appellations, void of truth;
I've better known thee from my earliest youth,
Thy name is *Hasty-Pudding!* Thus our sires
Were wont to greet thee fuming from their fires;
And while they argu'd in thy just defence
With logic clear, they thus explain'd the sense:—
"In *haste* the boiling caldron o'er the blaze,
"Receives and cooks the ready-powder'd maize;
"In *haste* 'tis serv'd and then in equal *haste,*
"With cooling milk, we make the sweet repast.
"No carving to be done, no knife to grate
"The tender ear, and wound the stony plate;
"But the smooth spoon, just fitted to the lip,
"And taught with art the yielding mass to dip,
"By frequent journeys to the bowl well stored
"Performs the hasty honors of the board."
Such is thy name, significant and clear,
A name, a sound to every Yankee dear,
But most to me, whose heart and palate chaste
Preserve my pure hereditary taste.

There are who strive to stamp with disrepute
The luscious food, because it feeds the brute;
In tropes of high-strain'd wit, while gaudy prigs
Compare thy nursling man to pamper'd pigs;
With sovereign scorn I treat the vulgar jest,
Nor fear to share thy bounties with the beast.
What tho' the gen'rous cow gives me to quaff
The milk nutritious; am I then a calf?
Or can the genius of the noisy swine,
Tho' nursed on pudding, thence lay claim to mine!
Sure the sweet song, I fashion to thy praise,
Runs more melodious than the notes they raise.

My song resounding in its grateful glee,
No merit claims; I praise myself in thee.
My father lov'd thee thro' his length of days!
For thee his fields were shaded o'er with maize;
From thee what health, what vigor he possess'd,
Ten sturdy freemen from his loins attest:
Thy constellation ruled my natal morn,
And all my bones were made of Indian corn.
Delicious grain! whatever form it take,

---

* A certain king, at the time when this was written, was publishing proclamations to prevent American principles from being propagated in his country.

To roast or boil, to smother or to bake,
In ev'ry dish 'tis welcome still to me,
But most, my Hasty-Pudding, most in thee.

Let the green succotash with thee contend,
Let beans and corn their sweetest juices blend,
Let butter drench them in its yellow tide,
And a long slice of bacon grace their side ;
Not all the plate, how fam'd soe'er it be,
Can please my palate like a bowl of thee.

Some talk of *Hoc-cake*, fair Virginia's pride,
Rich *Johnny-cake* this mouth has often tried ;
Both please me well, their virtues much the same,
Alike their fabric as allied their fame
Except in dear New-England, where the last
Receives a dash of pumpkin in the paste,
To give it sweetness, and improve the taste.
But place them all before me, smoking hot,
The big round dumpling rolling from the pot ;
The pudding of the bag, whose quiv'ring breast,
With suet lin'd, leads on the Yankee feast ;
The Charlotte brown, within whose crusty sides
A belly soft the pulpy apple hides ;
The yellow bread, whose face like amber glows,
And all of Indian that the bake-pan knows—
You tempt me not—my fav'rite greets my eyes,
To that lov'd bowl my spoon by instinct flies.

CANTO II.

To mix the food by vicious rules of art,
To kill the stomach and to sink the heart,
To make mankind, to social virtue sour,
Cram o'er each dish, and be what they devour,
For this the kitchen Muse first fram'd her book ;
Commanding sweets to stream from every cook ;
Children no more their antic gambols tried,
And friends to physic wonder'd why they died.
Not so the Yankee—his abundant feast,
With simples furnish'd, and with plainness dress'd,
A num'rous offspring gathers round the board,
And cheers alike the servant and the lord ;
Whose well-bought hunger prompts the joyous taste,
And health attends them with the short repast.

While the full pail rewards the milk-maid's toil
The mother sees the morning caldron boil ;
To stir the pudding next demands their care,
To spread the table and the bowls prepare ;
To feed the children, as their portions cool,
And comb their heads, and send them off to school.

Yet may the simplest dish, some rules impart,
For nature scorns not all the aids of art.
E'en Hasty-Pudding, purest of all food,
May still be bad, indifferent, or good,
As sage experience the short process guides,
Or want of skill, or want of care presides.
Whoer'er would form it on the surest plan,
To rear the child and long sustain the man ;
To shield the morals while it mends the size,
And all the powers of ev'ry food supplies—
Attend the lessons that the Muse shall bring,
Suspend your spoons, and listen while I sing.

But since, O man ! thy life and health demand
Not food alone, but labour from thy hand,
First in the field, beneath the sun's strong rays,
Ask of thy mother, earth, the needful maize ;
She loves the race that courts her yielding soil;
And gives her bounties to the sons of toil.

When now the ox obedient to thy call,
Repays the loan that fill'd the winter stall,
Pursue his traces o'er the furrow'd plain,
And plant in measur'd hills the golden grain.
But when the tender germ begins to shoot,
And the green spire declares the sprouting root,
Then guard your nursling from each greedy foe,
Th' insidious worm, the all-devouring crow.
A little ashes, sprinkled round the spire,
Soon steep'd in rain, will bid the worm retire ;
The feather'd robber with his hungry maw
Swift flies the field before your man of straw,
A frightful image, such as school-boys bring
When met to burn the Pope, or hang the King.

Thrice in the season, thro' each verdant row
Wield the strong plough-share and the faithful hoe,
The faithful hoe, a double task that takes,
To till the summer corn, and roast the Winter cakes.

Slow spring the blade, while check'd by chilling rains,
Ere yet the sun the seat of Cancer gains ;
But when its fiercest fires emblaze the land,
Then start the juices, then the roots expand ;
Then, like a column of Corinthian mould,
The stalk struts upward, and the leaves unfold ;
The bushy branches all the ridges fill,
Entwine their arms, and kiss from hill to hill.
Here cease to vex them, all your cares are done ;
Leave your last labors to the parent sun ;
Beneath his genial smiles the well-dress'd field,
When Autumn calls, a plenteous crop shall yield.

Now the strong foliage bears the standards high,
And shoots the tall top-gallants to the sky ;
The suckling ears their silky fringes bend,
And pregnant grown, their swelling coats distend,
The loaded stalk, while still the burthen grows,
O'erhangs the space that runs between the rows ;
High as a hop-field waves the silent grove,
A safe retreat for little thefts of love,
When the pledged roasting-ears invite the maid,
To meet her swain beneath the new-form'd shade,
His gen'rous hand unloads the cumbrous hill,
And the green spoils her ready basket fill ;
Small compensation for the two-fold bliss,
The promis'd wedding and the present kiss.

Slight depredations these, but now the moon
Calls from his hollow tree the sly racoon ;
And while by night he bears his prize away,
The bolder squirrel labors thro' the day.
Both thieves alike, but provident of time,
A virtue, rare, that almost hides their crime.
And let them steal the little stores they can,
And fill their gran'ries from the toils of man ;
We've one advantage where they take no part,—
With all their wiles they ne'er have found the art
To boil the Hasty-Pudding ; here we shine
Superior far to tenants of the pine ;
This envied boon to man shall still belong,
Unshar'd by them in substance or in song.

At last the closing season browns the plain,
And ripe October gathers in the grain ;
Deep-loaded carts the spacious corn-house fill,
The sack distended marches to the mill ;
The lab'ring mill beneath the burden groans,
And show'rs the future pudding from the stones ;
Till the glad housewife greets the powder'd gold,
And the new crop exterminates the old.

CANTO III.

The days grow short ; but tho' the falling sun
To the glad swain proclaims his day's work done,
Night's pleasing shades his various tasks prolong,
And yield new subjects to my various song
For now, the corn-house fill'd, the harvest home,
Th' invited neighbors to the *Husking* come ;
A frolic scene, where work, and mirth, and play,
Unite their charms, to chase the hours away.

Where the huge heap lies centr'd in the hall,
The lamp suspended from the cheerful wall,
Brown corn-fed nymphs, and strong hard-handed beaux
Alternate rang'd, extend in circling rows,
Assume their seats, the solid mass attack ;
The dry husks rustle, and the corn-cobs crack ;
The song, the laugh, alternate notes resound,
And the sweet cider trips in silence round.

The laws of husking ev'ry wight can tell ;
And sure no laws he ever keeps so well ;
For each red ear a gen'ral kiss he gains,
With each smut ear she smuts the luckless swains.
But when to some sweet maid a prize is cast,
Red as her lips, and taper as her waist,
She walks around, and culls one favor'd beau,
Who leaps, the luscious tribute to bestow.
Various the sport, as are the wits and brains
Of well-pleas'd lasses and contending swains ;
Till the vast mound of corn is swept away,
And he that gets the last ear, wins the day.

Meanwhile the housewife urges all her care,
The well-earned feast to hasten and prepare.
The sifted meal already waits her hand,
The milk is strain'd, the bowls in order stand,
The fire flames high ; and, as a pool (that takes
The head-long stream that o'er the mill-dam breaks)
Foams, roars and rages with incessant toils,
So the vex'd caldron rages, roars and boils.

First, with clean salt she seasons well the food,
Then stews the flour and thickens all the flood.
Long o'er the sim'ring fire she lets it stand ;
To stir it well demands a stronger hand ;
The husband takes his turn ; and round and round
The ladle flies ; at last the toil is crown'd ;
When to the board the thronging huskers pour,
And take their seats as at the corn before.

I leave them to their feast. There still belong
More copious matters to my faithful song.
For rules there are, tho' ne'er unfolded yet,
Nice rules and wise, how pudding should be ate

Some with molasses line the luscious treat,
And mix, like bards, the useful with the sweet.
A wholesome dish, and well deserving praise,
A great resource in those bleak wintry days,
When the chill'd earth lies buried deep in snow,
And raging Boreas drives the shiv'ring cow.

Blest cow ? thy praise shall still my notes employ,
Great source of health, the only source of joy ;
How oft thy teats these pious hands have press'd,
How oft thy bounties prove my only feast !
How oft I've fed thee with my fav'rite grain !
And roar'd like thee, to find thy children slain !

Ye swains, who know her various worth to prize,
Ah ! house her well from Winter's angry skies.
Potatoes, pumpkins, should her sadness cheer,
Corn from your crib, and mashes from your beer:
When Spring returns she'll well acquit the loan,
And nurse at once your infants and her own.

Milk, then, with pudding, I should always choose
To this in future I confine my Muse,
Till she in haste some future hints unfold,
Well for the young, nor useless to the old.
First in your bowl the milk abundant take,
Then drop with care along the silver lake
Your flakes of pudding ; these at first will hide
Their little bulk beneath the swelling tide ;
But when their growing mass no more can sink ;
When the soft island looms above the brink,
Then check your hand ; you've got the portion's due,
So taught our sires and what they taught is true.

There is a choice in spoons, Tho' small appear
The nice distinction, yet to me 'tis clear,
The deep-bowl'd Gallic spoon, contriv'd to scoop
In ample draughts the thin diluted soup,
Performs not well in those substantial things,
Whose mass adhesive to the metal clings ;
Where the strong labial muscles must embrace,
The gentle curve, and sweep the hollow space.
With ease to enter and discharge the freight,
A bowl less concave but still more dilate,
Becomes the pudding best. The shape, the size,
A secret rests unknown to vulgar eyes ;
Experienc'd feeders can alone impart
A rule so much above the lore of art.
Those tuneful lips, that thousand spoons have tried,
With just precision could the point decide,
Tho' not in song ; the muse but poorly shines
In cones and cubes, and geometric lines,
Yet the true form, as near as she can tell,
Is that small section of a goose egg-shell,
Which in two equal portions shall divide
The distance from the centre to the side.

Fear not to slaver ; 'tis no deadly sin,
Like the free Frenchmen, from your joyous chin
Suspend the ready napkin ; or, like me
Poise with one hand your bowl upon your knee ;
Just in the zenith your wise head project,
Your full spoon, rising in a line direct,
Bold as a bucket, heeds no drops that fall,
The wide-mouth'd bowl will surely catch them all.

Cockroaches.—An English paper asserts that thick skins peeled from cucumbers will prove a certain destruction to cockroaches. A Mr. Tewksbury, of Nottingham, occupying an old house which was literally overrun with these pests, got rid of them entirely and permanently by putting the cucumber skins for three successive nights on the floors of rooms most infested. The insects devoured the skins with great eagerness, and since the third feeding, not one has been seen about the house. This is not a very plausible statement, but it will cost nothing to make a trial during this month. Will a few of our readers do so, and give us the results either way? We have none of the animals about to experiment upon.—Ed.

MORE ABOUT “SPARI

This is, perhaps, to some a hackneyed theme, yet its importance to the farmer and gardener demands a constant recurrence to the subject. Only yesterday we saw a gang of boys in eager pursuit of a nest of fledglings, and we could but, instinctively almost, cry out, “boys, spare the birds.” Boys of a larger growth, however, are more mischievous. Often in coming into the City we meet a gang of city loafers, with their dogs and guns, sallying forth to destroy the birds or frighten them from their habitations in the grove upon some quiet farm retreat. Did farmers know or appreciate the real worth to themselves of the birds thus driven away, they would expel the intruding hunters as they would so many horse thieves.

The value of birds to the farmer, the fruit grower, and the gardener is now almost universally admitted by all observing persons, for it is known that insects injurious to vegetation increase in proportion to the decrease of woodlands and the songsters inhabiting them.

Farmers are sometimes at the expense of hiring persons to search out and destroy the cut and wire-worms from their corn fields, the catterpillars from the orchard, borers from their peach trees and the various bugs and insects which feed upon their vines and bushes; but a few nests of birds will do the work cheaper and more effectually. Who has not observed the robins following the plow or hoe, and wondered at the vast number of worms and grubs which they bear to their little family in a neighboring tree. Their keen sense of hearing aids in detecting the grub gnawing at the roots of plants beneath the surface.

It is stated in Anderson’s Recreations that “a cautious observer having found a nest of five young Jays, remarked that each of these birds, while yet very young, consumed at least fifteen full sized grubs of the *Anomala vitis* (a chafer injurious to the vine) in one day, and of course would require many more of a smaller size. Say that on an average they consumed twenty a-piece, these for the five make one hundred. Each of the parents consume, say fifty; so that the pair and family devour two hundred every day. This, in three months, amounts to twenty thousand in one season. But as the grub continues in that state four seasons, this single pair, with their family alone, without reckoning their descendants after the first year, would destroy eighty thousand grubs. Let us suppose that the half of these insects, that is, forty thousand, are females, and it is known that they usually lay about two hundred eggs each, it will appear that no less than eight millions have been destroyed or prevented from being hatched by the labors of a single family of Jays.”

It was a short-sighted policy which led people, in many localities, at no very distant period, to enact laws calculated to nearly exterminate certain species of birds by awarding a bounty or premium for their destruction. It is now pretty well established that some of these same birds, notwithstanding an occasionally thieving visit to the corn-field or orchard, are very useful in exterminating vermin. Vincent Rollar, speaking of the crow, says: “it walks between the plants, and as soon as it sees one that has begun to wither, it approaches it with a joyful spring, digs with its sharp bill deep into the ground near the plant, and knows so well how to seize its prey, that it draws it forth and swallows it almost in the same moment; they do the same thing in the meadows which we sometimes see almost covered with them.”

Buffon, in speaking of a certain species of grackle, similar to our crow-black bird, says: “The Isle of Bourbon, where these birds were unknown, was overrun with locusts which had been unfortunately introduced from Madagascar; their eggs having been imported in the soil with some plants which were brought from that island. The Governor-General and the Intendant deliberated seriously on the means of extirpating these noxious insects; and for this purpose, caused several pairs of Indian grackle to be introduced into the Island.

This plan promised to succeed; but unfortunately, some of the Colonists seeing the birds eagerly thrusting their bills into the earth of the newly sown fields, imagined that they were in quest of the grain, and reported that the birds, instead of proving beneficial, would be highly detrimental to the country. On the part of the birds it was argued that they raked the new-plowed grounds, not for the sake of the grain, but for the insects, and were therefore beneficial. They were, however, proscribed by the Council, and in the space of two hours after the sentence was passed against them, not a grackle was to be found in the island. This prompt execution was followed by a speedy repentance. The locusts gained the ascendancy, and the people who only viewed the present regretted the loss of the grackles. Shortly afterwards a few pairs were again introduced, and their preservation and breeding made a State affair; the laws held out protection to them, and the physicians, on their part, declared their flesh to be unwholesome. The grackles according multiplied, and the locusts were destroyed.”

The whippoorwill and nighthawk destroy vast numbers of nocturnal insects, including the codling moth, an especial enemy of the fruit grower. Both of these birds are often heard after nightfall in the vicinity of orchards, where they seize not only upon the millers and larger insects, but by means of wide mouths which they keep open when in quest of food, they collect many small insects, such as gnats, by constantly darting through swarms of them.

The nighthawk often darts from a distance upon large insects, making in its swoop a noise not unlike that produced by the twang of a viol string. Nutting states that one of these birds, on dissection, was found to contain 200 insects in its crop, consisting mostly of small beetles.

We are fully persuaded that no enlightened farmer, who is convinced of even a tithe of the benefit he derives from the friendly visits of these cheerful laborers, will permit them to be destroyed on his premises; but rather invite them by means of hedges, thick shrubs and low trees to make their habitations near him, calling him from his morning slumbers by a flood of song poured in at the open casement, and ever ready with their inspiring notes to cheer him in his daily toil.—[Ed.

A YANKEE’S VIEWS ON BARN-BUILDING.

Those who build now are pretty generally agreed upon one point; that it is more economical to erect one building for the various farm purposes, rather than the great number which are seen so common about old establishments.

Let us look at a few figures, which *won’t lie.* A building ten feet square contains one thousand cubic feet. Not to speak of the roof, the outside presents a surface to the weather of four hundred feet. We have, then, ten feet inside to four feet outside.

Take another example. A building twenty feet square contains eight thousand cubic feet; the outside measures one thousand six hundred feet. Here we have five feet inside to one foot outside. We will now take a building forty feet square. The inside to the outside is as *ten to one!*

I am aware that the larger structure requires a heavier frame, that is all. The boards and shingles are the same in either case. I know, too, that the wide roof is worn by rain. The objection, however, is not of great weight.

I hold, Mr. Editor, that one part of a large barn accommodates another part. It is a saving of steps to have your horse near the vehicle in which you wish to attach him. Why go several rods to a ten-footer, and open another set of doors in the wind to “get out the chaise?” What comfort, in returning from market or town-meeting on a stormy day, and driving into a snug floor-way, to untackle and put away horse and wagon with ease and expedition. There is no difficulty in dispensing with the carriage-house; the barn is the place for all the vehicles, the cellar takes in all the carts and coarse wagons—a room at the side of the drive-way the lighter vehicles.

Then what need is there for a separate building for tools? what place so central as an ample room by the side of the floor-way? You start from the barn, usually, to go to different parts of the farm, and you return thither when the work is done.

I have thought, Mr. Editor, that portable bins for corn might be put up in this large tool-room. In the busy seasons of the year, corn-bins are apt to get pretty low, so they would not be in the way much when the tools were most used. I should prefer that the bins be where they could be seen too often. One might stand a better chance, then, of keeping the rats from destroying the corn. I have little faith in these out-of-the-way places to keep corn; it is sure to waste and injure.—[New England Farmer.

If a man could have his wishes, he would double his troubles.

CISTERN'S AND CISTERN BUILDING.

In a previous number we have spoken of pure water as essential to health. We regard rain water as pure, fit for use. How to get it and keep it is the question now before us. To do this, cisterns must be made in the ground. The size of cisterns may depend upon the amount of water wanted. They may vary from five to twenty feet in diameter, and from ten to twenty-five in depth. A deep cistern will keep the water cooler, and probably better. From sixteen to twenty feet is a good depth. We are of the opinion that excellent water can always be kept in cisterns of that depth. From six to nine feet is a good width for ordinary family purposes. They should be dug round, and with the utmost regularity, be perpendicular, the bottom smooth, and a little hollowed in the middle, to facilitate the process of cleansing, and give greater permanency to the coat of cement. A permanent clay soil is generally solid enough when well dug, and the sides well smoothed and cemented, to make a lasting cistern; but it is always best to brick over the bottom and sides. This gives the most reliable permanency if the bricks are properly laid. It prevents any water pressure from bursting in, and makes a solid basis for the cement. The top should be arched over with brick, leaving a hole in the middle about two and a half feet in width, and arched sufficiently to sustain any pressure that may ever be expected to be put upon it. When it is thus dug and arched, or bricked, it is ready for the cement, which should be carefully put on at three coatings. Good hydraulic cement, well put on, will make a permanent water-tight lining for the cistern, which is cheap, and not easily displaced.

The next important matter is the filter. Pure water cannot well be obtained in all seasons of the year without a filter. There are many modes of filtering cistern water. One is to dig a small cistern six or eight feet deep, near the main one, and fit a filter in the bottom of this, having first connected it with the main cistern by a lead pipe. The orifice of the passage to the main cistern is first protected by bricks or stones. These are covered with a strong coarse woolen cloth. Upon this is placed a layer of powdered charcoal; on this a layer of gravel; another cloth similar to the first: then charcoal and gravel again. The more of these layers the more perfect the filter. They must be so placed that all the water shall pass through them. The filter in all cisterns is made in the same way.

Another arrangement is to make two cisterns of equal depth, one much larger than the other, and connect them at the bottom with a lead pipe. Lay up a brick arch around the orifice of the passage in the large cistern, about two feet high, and make the filter in this. Let the water from the roof into this cistern. The main body of the water being in the large cistern, it will filter slowly, and the water will have time to settle all it will, before going through the filter. There is probably no better plan for good water than this. The only objection to this plan, is that if the filter needs repairing or replenishing, the water must all be taken out to do it.

Still another plan, is to make a large and small cistern, the large one half the depth of the small one. Make the filter in the large one as in the last named plan. In this the water filters quicker, without time to settle; but the filter can be repaired without the loss of the water in the small one;

Some divide the filtering cistern with a brick wall, and place a filter in this and another at the aperture as above, making two filters. This doubtless will give excellent water. Whatever plan is adopted, care should be taken to do it well. Let all the work be done well, and of good material, and there can be no doubt of securing good water.—[Valley Farmer.

OUR WATERLOO CORRESPONDENCE.

Fish Manures—Turnips—Beets—Jethro Tull—Wheat growing better in the "Genesee Country"—Condition of the Crops—City Manures.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Your last Agriculturist was the best of the series. Farming near the sea coast with menhaden fish, swamp muck, and sometimes sea and rock weed for the compost heap, brings to mind the scenes of my boyhood. But I would ask, do not these oily fish give that carbon, to say nothing of phosphate of lime to the soil, that is contained in carbonaceous vegetable matter; or rather, is it not potash, instead of carbon, that a soil needs when long treated with fish alone as a manureal amendment? A Long Island farmer who once came to Montezuma for a boat load of wood ashes, told me that such ashes "were almost indispensable to a fish-treated soil."

The agricultural press is constantly advocating turnip culture to our farmers, just as though we had the "boiled turnip sun*" and moist climate of England; hence I have felt it for some time on my mind, as the Quakers say, to give my experience in the premises. On the island of Rhode Island, where the moisture is aided, and the sun's rays are obstructed by sea fogs, spring turnips do well; but on the calcareous soil of Western New York, it is a bootless task to attempt to grow turnips, at least in the late summer and fall months, except always on new mucky soils. I have tried, year after year, to grow a few English turnips, without succeeding, until the last very wet season; their growth was then so rapid, that the besetting worms could not prevent a normal growth. I have tried as an antidote for the insects, ashes, sulphur, salt, &c., but they grow so slow in our warm, dry August and September, that the root becomes a prey to worms. On the same rich soil, beets, carrots and parsnips, grow in great luxuriance. I have Wurtzel beets, transplanted first of July, now nearly two inches in diameter; by November, they will attain a stove-pipe size. Many of the early planted now stand eight inches out of the ground. Two or three of those beets, cut up in still slop, or with half a pint of Indian meal, is a good mess for a village cow in the winter. Rutabagas will grow on a lighter soil than beets, but I have had even these lose their leaves and die on a sand loam in a July drought, which was the very life of beets, corn and Lima beans. The Treasurer of our Agricultural Society, a large farmer, says he should hardly know how to winter his milch cows without Wurtzel beets. They never fail to leave a heavy soil loose. While the same soil planted to onions is hard and dry with repeated hoeings, it is loose and friable with beets after the first thinning and hoeing, and they require less after culture than corn, and no more than potatoes; but while they perfect large roots in the same soil, potatoes make only large stalks and small tubers.

Jethro Tull, despite his bald premature chemistry, did the State some service. What a pity he could not have seen our best western prairie soils, where Nature has made those fine and perfectly comminuted mineral deposits for which he was so great a stickler. Methinks he would have been cheated of all his physical pains, when he beheld the consummation of his theory full before him in a prairie soil.

Having lately returned from a trip West, I have tried to form with soil ingredients here, the mechanical counterpart of a specimen from a very productive prairie near Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin. While our fine clay, if mixed with sand to counteract its adhesiveness, forms, after being wet and dried, only a less adhesive and more porous conglomerate, the prairie specimen is always fine and pulverulent, wet or dry, even with less mold or vegetable remains in its composition, than my mixture contains. Hence I have so far gone back to Tull's theory as to believe that our heavy soils are as much benefitted by the mechanical office of manures in making the soil mellow and absorptive, as for the chemical ingredients they contribute to it. The "scarification" of the soil by hoeing, &c., is only a continuation and perfection of the mechanical amendment, so necessary to both capillary attraction and atmospheric absorption.

I am glad to say that the wheat midge, *C. Tritici*, like the destructor, is on the decline in our region. One great cause is the starving out our farmers have given this insect by planting an earlier variety of wheat, and by plowing deeply the wheat stubble, so as to bury the larvæ deep in the soil. One of our best farmers, John Johnson, thinks he would have entirely distanced the fly this season, had it not been for the very late and wet fall which retarded his sowing more than two weeks. As it is, his great underdrained fields of Soule's wheat suffered from the midge, but the inferior Mediterranean wheat generally escaped. The crop is fair, and it has been well secured; all our summer crops will be above the medium; corn never grew faster than during the late extra hot weather.

When I learn from your paper the great chemical wants of your sea-coast soils, and the magic effect of guano, tafeu, &c., I can but feel that the great daily waste of organic matter going on in our Atlantic cities, to the injury of the public health, is one of those violations of Nature's laws which the wants of the neighboring hungry soil has begun to suggest the means of averting. S. W.

---

* It was Horace Greeley who said, "the English sun looked like a boiled turnip."

WATERLOO, August 4, 1856.

MORE ABOUT STRAWBERRY GROWING.

A BOY'S DIRECTION TO BOYS AND GIRLS.

[We have among our subscribers a boy 13 years old who is quite an amateur as well as a practical grower of good strawberries. We invited him to write out some plain directions for Boys and Girls who have had little or no experience, and we give below what he has furnished, with the remark, that most of what is said will be found highly useful to grown up boys and girls.]—ED.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

In answer to your request I will do as well as I can, but I shall have to get some help of my father, who is very fond of raising fine strawberries, and who has taught me to do the same.

All the boys are fond of hunting wild strawberries, and how many of them will travel miles and miles, and spend nearly a whole day to get a basket full of the small, wild kinds, when no more time and labor would be required to raise a bushel of fine large berries. I am sure all the boys, and girls too, would raise them at home if they knew how easy a matter it is, and if they knew how to do it. I will try and tell them all I can about it.

Next month, that is, September, is a very good time to set out plants, which will bear quite a quantity of berries next Summer, and many more the Summer after. The first thing is to prepare the ground, and much I find depends upon this—but it is a very simple thing after all. Put on plenty of good stable manure, if well rotted so much the better. Either horse or cow droppings, or in fact any kind of manure will do. Put it on two or three inches deep, and dig it in. Spade the ground deeply, at least fifteen inches, if two feet so much the better. A patch of ground upon which early potatoes grew will be nice—or any other mellow ground.

Now make your bed three feet wide, and put, if you can get it, a board on each side to stand and walk on—but no matter about this, it only makes the job so much nicer and keeps the fruit that falls over in the path clean, and also is likely to prevent it from being trod on in picking.

Your bed being now all ready and settled, the next thing is to select and set the plants. Much of the success will depend upon this. And first as to the plants. There are many valuable varieties now in cultivation, and also many worthless ones. Hovey's seedling is a good kind, so is MacAvoy's superior and Longworth's prolific. I like the last the best. It is a perfect blossom, and does not require any other kind with it. But if you cannot get this, take one of the others, and then you must put with them a few of some other kind, such as the Early Scarlet or Iowa—one to every ten will do.

If you can get the plants near home, go for them yourself, and take them up carefully. Select vigorous, *young* plants, put them into a basket and cover the roots immediately with earth to keep the small fibers from getting dry. This is very important to your success. Plant them in the evening with a garden trowel, or some other implement that will open the earth well. Set them in rows across the bed, making the rows eighteen inches apart, and putting the plants in the row about one foot apart. Press the earth firmly about the roots and then water each plant well. Now cut some grass and scatter over the plants; this will shade them from the sun and keep the ground moist. If these directions are carefully followed the plants will not know that they have been removed, but will grow on almost immediately.

You may plant any time from this till the first of November, but the sooner the better. After the plants have begun to grow well—say in about ten days—you may take off the hay and keep the ground raked well, and let no weeds grow. If any runners should appear pinch them off. This will make the plants strong. If you will occasionally apply some liquid manure from the barn yard it will help the plants.

Nothing more need be done till the first of December; then throw over each plant a small shovel full of fine, well-rotted manure or rotten leaves, which will protect them in the Winter from being frozen out, and will also enrich the ground.

Nothing will be required in the Spring but to keep the ground clean of weeds. When the plants come into bloom cut some grass and cover all the ground between the plants. This will keep the fruit clean and the soil moist. If any runners appear before the fruit is ripe, pinch them off. They will exhaust the plants and take from the fruit. When the berries begin to ripen, if the season is dry, take, in the evening, some water from the *well* and water the plants with a watering pot. Father thinks rain water spoils the flavor of the fruit, but that well water does not.

After the plants have done bearing, keep beds clear from weeds and cut off the runners once a week. This will take but a few minutes. The plants will then become fine large ones, capable of bearing the next season a pint of fruit each—and this is also the only way to keep your bed from being full of weeds. If you want more plants to extend your bed, which you will, I am sure, let some runners take root and remove the plants as soon as they are large enough. On the approach of Winter, again spread over the bed about one or two inches of good fine manure to protect the plants and also to enrich them. Managed in this way a bed will last four or five years, and delight you with its fine, large, red, ripe sweet strawberries. I hope my young friends will try these directions, and see if I am not right. I think a great deal of my strawberry beds, and I should like to have all others enjoy such berries. I hope, Mr. Editor, that you will keep on writing such articles as the one in the August Agriculturist about the "Five Thousand Strawberry Beds."

Your young friend,

GEORGE.

FLOWERING BULBS.

This month the time to plant—Description of the most common—Snow-Drops—Crown-Imperials—Lilies, Candidum or White, Tiger, &c.—Crocus—Tulips—Hyacinths—Practical directions for culture of these and other bulbs, &c.

Bulbous plants are those which yield a scaly bud either below or above the ground. These buds or bulbs are formed of overlapping scales which in some cases are arranged like the leaves of a flower, and in others, as in the onion for example, the scales or layers pass entirely around the bulb, save a small opening at the top. The scales are all connected at the base of the bulb, from which point roots are given out to produce new plants. Some of this class of plants produce the bulbs under the ground, which are called root-bulbs—the tulip, crocus and onion for example—while others furnish the bulb upon the stalk, or axils of the leaves above ground, such as the tiger lily, top onions, &c. The latter class of bulbs are nourished by the parent plant until they attain maturity, when they fall to the ground, and send forth roots to produce new plants.

Solid bulbs like the potato and dahlia, which are devoid of the laminated scales or layers, are called *tubers*.

Several varieties of bulbous plants produce rich, showy, fragrant flowers, many of which come into bloom very early in the spring—some of them while the snow banks still linger by the hill-sides and hedges. This circumstance, together with the ease of cultivation, renders them worthy of a place in every garden or flower-plot, however small or humble.

This being the season for setting many of the bulbs lifted from the soil during June and July, we give below a descriptive list of some of the most desirable, with directions for planting and cultivating. We shall only speak of those hardy varieties which require planting in the autumn, purposing to extend our list in the spring to those adapted to that season.

Some varieties of bulbs do not keep well out of ground, and for the most part, these do not require lifting often. After they have been taken up in the spring or summer, it is well to leave them out for a few days lightly covered with dry earth, when they may be cleaned and packed away in drawers, or, what is better, put in boxes of dry sand.

Bulbs may be grown on nearly all soils, excepting those very wet, but they flourish best on a rather light sandy loam, if it is capable of retaining moisture. The amateur, who desires flowers of the richest colors, and faultless in shape and size, may make a soil for his choice bulbs by excavating the earth to the depth of say two feet, of the size of the desired bed, and stir up the soil even below this; after which, he may fill it with a mixture of say one-eighth of old rotten yard or cow manure, the same amount of leaf mold, one-fourth well decayed muck, and a like quantity each of river or sea sand, and fresh earth from the road-side or untilled land. This compost should be mixed at least two weeks before use, and the bed made about ten days previous to planting. For mode of putting in the bulbs, we refer to the special descriptions of varieties below, premising that the directions are for planting in a common garden soil, but when practicable, we advise preparing a bed as above. We begin with those requiring the earliest planting, and follow in regular course.

SNOW DROP.

This is the earliest flower of spring, and derives its name from the circumstance of its often appearing in full bloom while snow is still upon the ground, together with the pearly white appearance of its petals. It is sometimes called snow flake. The bulbs are quite small, and may be planted during August and September, either singly or in clumps of from six to twelve; cover with 1½ or 2 inches of soil. They are only about six inches high when in bloom, which is during March and April in this latitude. Every third year is often enough to lift them, which should be done about the first of June.

CROWN IMPERIAL.

There are many varieties of this plant, nearly all of which are natives of Persia. They are hardy and very showy when in full bloom during April and May. The stem shoots up from two to three, and in some situations even four feet, and is capped by a tuft of green glossy foliage, beneath which hangs the crown of beautiful bell-shaped flowers varying on different plants from bright yellow to scarlet, red and striped. The bulbs are large, fleshy, and somewhat solid, and require to be kept wrapped in paper or packed in sand while out of the ground, but they only require moving every fourth or fifth year. Plant in August and September, covering with three or four inches of earth. Some object to this bulb on account of its rank odor, but the luxuriant growth and fine hues of its flowers at a season when very few plants are in bloom are such as to recommend its culture.

LILIES.

The Lily tribe, which is very numerous, is an interesting class of plants, many of which are so common, and so easy of cultivation as to require little instruction relative to treatment. Well decomposed muck, mixed freely with scrapings of the barn-yard, is a good compost. If a covering of straw from the stable, mixed with coarse manure, be given them in the Fall they will start with more vigor. Plant from August to October, covering the bulbs from three to five inches, according as they are weak or strong-growing varieties.

The *Lilium candidum*, (common white lily of the garden,) has long been esteemed as an emblem of whiteness and purity, and should not fail to have a place in every collection. It blooms in July upon the extremities of the stalks which are from three to four feet high, and need supporting by stakes. It requires transplanting but seldom, which should be done in August or September.

The *Lilium tigrinum*, or Tiger lily, is found in almost every flower garden, and is very suitable for either border or shrubbery. It grows from 4 to 6 feet high and blooms in August. The flower stalks should be supported to prevent being broken by severe storms. It is very hardy and may be moved at almost any time, Fall or Spring, but better during September and October. Tiger lilies may be raised in large quantities from the small bulbs found growing upon the axils of the leaves, a peculiarity which distinguishes this variety from others of the same genus.

The *Longiflorum* or long flowered lily is a beautiful and fragrant variety with pure white petals which open in July.

CROCUS.

There are some fifty varieties of this hardy plant which, though humble, are nevertheless beautiful. They are natives of Holland and Switzerland. They bloom here early in April, and are planted from September to November, in rows a few inches from the border, or in beds of distinct colors, the bulbs being set four inches apart, and one to two inches deep. They may remain several years without moving. The great variety of hues, extreme hardiness, and early season of flowering, render them quite worthy of cultivation.

TULIP.

This bulb has attained a renown excelled by no other plant, having been extensively cultivated for about 300 years; and so great was the mania, that at one time—about the years 1635 and 1636—the Dutch people of all classes engaged in the Tulip trade: single bulbs sold for $1,000 to $2,000, and, according to Dodsley, even as high as $5,000. T. Bridgeman says that in some of the gardens of Holland 1,100 varieties are cultivated by name. It is a native of the Levant, and from the gorgeous colors and endless combination of tints penciled on its cup, has received the appellations of "King of Flowers," "Reigning Beauty of the Garden," &c.

We shall not attempt to describe the endless varieties, some of which are dwarfish in their habits while others are from two to three feet in height, some blooming in the early part of May, and others not till the end of that month. Plant during October or early in November in groups along borders, or in beds six to eight inches apart each way. Clumps of three to six bulbs of different colors have a fine appearance along a border, or a circular bed may be made by spading deep and mixing in sand and muck, after which set the tallest growing plants in the centre and form consecutive circles with the dwarf varieties for the outer border, interspersing all the different hues. Let such a bed have a gradual inclination from the centre to the outer edge, and cover the bulbs with three to four inches of earth, placing a little dry sand around each. The names of each variety should be registered in a book, so that no unsightly tallies need be seen in the bed, which should be smoothly raked off and kept free from weeds. Take up every third year, about four weeks after blooming.

HYACINTH.

The traffic in this bulb has not fallen far below that of the Tulip. Bridgeman states that 1,300 varieties by name have been cultivated in Holland, and Mr. Dutens says in his travels, that he has known 10,000 florins ($4,000) refused for a single Hyacinth. It is valued for the great variety of its hues, being of almost every shade of color, from pure white to pink, red, crimson, purple, blue and yellow; it also has a delightful perfume. Hyacinths are very hardy and easily cultivated, commencing to bloom about the middle of April, and if shaded from the mid-day sun, will continue in flower for a month. The stalks are about one foot high, and covered with florets or small bells of every hue, with red, blue or purple eyes, giving the bed a very beautiful appearance. Plant firm, sound bulbs in October and November in beds similar to those for the tulip. Set them eight inches apart and cover three or four inches, having previously put a little fine sand about the bulb. The flowers will be more perfect and of an improved size if the beds are covered during Winter with coarse manure or straw. The bulbs can be taken up in about one month after they have completed their blooming season, or they may remain for two or three years.

A good bed of bulbs is formed by preparing the ground as described for tulips, and planting all the above-named varieties in the same bed at one time, so arranging them that a clump of the tallest kind shall be in the centre and the others planted in circular rows, the first being about one foot from the centre, the second one foot from the first, and so on, arranging the colors to suit the fancy. These will form a fine succession of blooming plants from the latter end of March to June. By erecting an awning over the bed when beginning to bloom and shading from the mid-day sun, they may be kept in flower some days longer. Previous to their decay the space between the rows may be sown with annuals, which by the time the foliage of the bulbs has withered and the bulbs themselves been lifted, will serve to cover what would otherwise be naked ground, (always unseemly in a flower garden) and yield during the latter part of Summer and Autumn a profusion of other flowers.

A good average time for planting will be about the middle of September, which is the season we intend to plant a new bed on this plan.—[Ed.

PRESERVING BUTTER.—"It is said" that butter will keep for a long time, if each pound be treated with one ounce of the following composition recommended by Dr. Allen, viz.: Salt 2 parts; saltpetre 1 part; sugar 2 parts.

A FOOL, says the Arab proverb, may be known by six things; anger without cause, speech without profit, change without motive, iniquity without object, putting trust in a stranger, and not knowing his friends from his foes.

GRAPE GROWING.

IMPORTANT ENQUIRIES, AND A SUGGESTION.

In the usual method of constructing graperies, it is customary to set the vines in the ground or border just outside the building, and lead them in through a hole in the foundation wall below the surface. Mr. Tarbox, of Brooklyn, Conn., enquires whether it would answer to set the plants a distance of 10 to 15 feet from the building, leading them up 20 to 25 feet in the open air before entering the building, or allowing side branches to grow.

First—Will the main stem of the imported grape be likely to suffer during winter, if left unprotected, provided the top or bearing branches are under glass cover ?

Second—If protection is necessary, will a covering of straw closely bound on be sufficient ?

Third—Will the head branches bear equally as well at the distance of 30 to 40 feet from the root as nearer ? The wild native grapes are said to produce their best fruit at the tops of the supporting trees, say 40 to 80 feet from the root of the vine. Will the same be the case with the exotic or foreign grapes ?

A Suggestion.—If the naked stem of the foreign grape vine will withstand the frost when exposed, or with slight protection with straw, then the upper rooms, attics or garrets of any buildings, whether in country or city, may be converted into convenient graperies at little expense. Glass roofs can now be put on almost, if not quite as cheaply as those of tin. With this and a part of the gable ends also glass covered, the grape vines may be carried up on the outside of the building, and led through it at the base of the garret, where side shoots may be trained as in any ordinary grapery. The warm air ordinarily ascending from the lower rooms would furnish sufficient artificial heat during most of the year. Any additional heat required for a few of the coldest days of winter, or for forcing, could be supplied by hot air registers from below. For an ordinary cold grapery, no heating apparatus would be required. We will not at this time speak particularly of the attractiveness and beauty of a house, store, or work-shop thus constructed, nor of the actual *profit* (for we believe profit there would be), until we get the opinion of some experienced grape cultivators in answer to the questions above.—[Ed.

Alexander Gunn was discharged from the Custom House at Edinburgh for a malpractice. The entry in the books stands thus : *A. Gunn was discharged* for making a false *report !*

If you never touch a drop of any preparation containing alcohol, you will most assuredly never die in the gutter.

Poverty wants some, luxury many, and avarice all things.

The Bible is our best directory in faith and practice.

Good words cost nothing, but are worth much.

A FIRST RATE SUET PUDDING.

Having frequent occasion to take a noon "lunch" at the Dining Rooms of Savery's Temperance Hotel in this City, we have been particularly pleased with the "Suet Pudding" there served up, and at our request Mr. Savery kindly furnished the recipe for the readers of the American Agriculturist It is made as follows :

Blend well together :

½ lb. white Sugar, pulverized,
¾ lb. Beef Suet, chopped fine,
1 quart of Milk,
2 teaspoonfuls Cream of Tartar,
1 teaspoonful cooking Soda,
6 Eggs, well beaten.

When the above are thoroughly mixed, stir in 2½ lbs. of Flour, and flavor with extract of Lemon. Bake in cups for about twenty minutes, in an oven hot enough for baking biscuits. The above amounts are used for two dozen dessert cakes,

N. B.—One-half pound of Butter may be used instead of the ¾ lb. of Suet.

Pudding Sauce.—With the above, as well as other puddings, two kinds of sauce are used. *Hard Sauce*—Butter beat up with pulverized Sugar. *Lemon Sauce.*—¼ lb. Butter ; ½ lb. Sugar ; 1 Lemon, cut fine ; 1 pint of Water. The whole boiled, thickened with a little Flour, and a little Nutmeg grated in.

Others *may* have better recipes than the above—if so please send them on.—[Ed.

Merino Sheep Speculation.—A subscriber inquires where he can find the best account of the "Merino Sheep Speculation," at the time they were introduced by Gen. Humphreys, some fifty years ago. Can any one of our readers answer the question ?

Agricultural Books and Libraries.—We direct especial attention to Saxton & Co.'s plan for furnishing Agricultural books, in the advertising columns.

United States Agricultural Exhibition.—The official announcement appears in our advertising columns. The full information therein imparted saves us the necessity of further reference to it.

Illinois Central Railroad Lands.—We have not thought it necessary to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of this Company, as it is so full and complete that it speaks for itself. It will command the attention of all who are looking to the West with reference to a change of residence. The location of these lands upon one of the finest railroads in the world, renders them worthy of special notice. We have just received a beautiful pamphlet of 64 pages, containing maps of the State of Illinois and of the Central Railroad Lands, and much information respecting the country. This is issued by the Company, to be sent as a full reply to those asking information. We advise all interested to send to John Wilson, Esq., at Chicago, Illinois, and get one of these pamphlets, which are furnished gratis, we believe, to all applicants.

The bravest heart oft contains the most humility.

N. Y. State and American Institute.—Agricultural Exhibitions.—The official announcements of both of these Exhibitions, with particulars as to arrangements, &c., appear in the Advertising pages of this number. We have not room for further notice.

The Connecticut State Agricultural Society.—Extensive preparations are being made to get up an Exhibition—to be held at New Haven, October 7th to 10 inclusive—on a scale quite surpassing the last two exhibitions of this Society. This is saying a good deal, as both of the former shows were excellent, but "*forward* march" is the watchword of the commanders, colonels, captains and subalterns of this enterprising Yankee Society. "Fall into the ranks," brother farmers of Connecticut, "drop the plow in the furrow" for a day or two, and go up to the Annual Parade at New Haven.

Acknowledgements.—To C. L. Flint, Esq., Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, and to Henry A. Dyer, Esq., Secretary of the Connecticut State Agricultural Society, we are indebted for copies of the Reports of the Transactions of their respective Societies during 1855. These gentlemen, we may remark, are doing most efficient service in the cause of agricultural improvement, and we are glad to learn from various sources that their labors are appreciated by those for whom they labor. The reports before us are valuable contributions to the agricultural literature not only of these two States, but of the whole country.

Mr. G. Sprague, Secretary of the Ohio Agricultural Society, has kindly favored us with a programme and a beautiful picture of the show grounds for their Exhibition to be held at Cleveland, September 23d to 26th. We are sure the Exhibition is to be a magnificent one, and, if at all practical, we shall witness with our own eyes what the banner *farming* State can do on such an occasion.

To Correspondents and Contributors.—All articles designed for insertion, or questions requiring reply, must reach us by the 15th of the preceding month to be sure of attention, as after that date we are wholly occupied with the leading articles for the season. Quite a number of letters, &c., designed for this number, came to hand after the inside pages were printed, and are crowded out for want of room.

NO IRREGULARITY IN MAILING.

The Agriculturist is *invariably* mailed one day before the beginning of the month. If the paper is late in reaching subscribers, the fault is with the mails, not with us. Careful men, and not boys, are employed to write wrappers, so that there shall be no mistakes.

Errata.—On page 279 of the inside sheet, we see the pressman has spoiled the heading "More about Sparing the Birds." He promises to be more careful next time and he *must* be. These "Steam Presses" are very convenient, but they sometimes "play the mischief" with the types.

THE "ADS."—AN APOLOGY.—Our advertising friends have crowded us into narrower quarters than we can put up with. We must have twenty or twenty-one pages of reading matter usually, which will leave but three or four pages for advertisements. If these continue to come in so freely and unsolicited, we shall be compelled to give more pages in the paper. We should have added eight more pages to this number, could we have got paper enough made in season.

☞ We desire to repeat that we assume no responsibility for any advertisement. The space is thrown open to the public at so much per line, and all pay alike. Still we reserve the right to reject any advertisement not desired, and we will not knowingly admit anything of a humbug character, or of an immoral tendency.—[ED.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

By the column or half column, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

☞ Business Notices 20 cents a line.

C. M. SAXTON & CO'S

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES,

FOR VILLAGES, TOWNS, AND PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS.

PUBLISHED AT 140 FULTON-STREET, NEW-YORK.

Carefully selected with reference to the wants of the Farmer, and arranged so as to afford the needed information in each department.

For the purpose of furnishing to all who are interested in the cultivation of the soil, the readiest access to WORKS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, at a trifling cost to each individual, it is proposed to establish an AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY in every town or school district in each State, on the following plan:—

The best, most reliable and prominent works on Agriculture and kindred subjects are selected and judiciously arranged in Libraries costing

FROM TEN TO ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS EACH.

In each town or district those persons desiring a Library will unite under a few simple regulations, or if preferred, adopt a more formal Constitution, choose a Librarian, and fix the amount to be contributed by each member, at from one to five dollars, and purchase such a Library as their means will afford

No measure, it is believed, could conduce more to the improvement of the Farmer and his Farm, than the location of such a Library in his neighborhood. By making Agriculture a more intellectual pursuit, we shall at once increase its profits and lessen its labors, while we shall render it more attractive to the sons of the Farmer, who are driven by its hard and ill-paid toil to the less healthful employment of the crowded cities.

Catalogues furnished upon application to

C. M. SAXTON & CO.,
Agricultural Book Publishers,
116-n100 No. 140 Fulton-street, New-York.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE

CATTLE SHOW,

EMBRACING AN EXHIBITION OF CATTLE of all breeds, HORSES, SHEEP, SWINE and POULTRY, will be held at Hamilton Square, in the CITY OF NEW-YORK, on

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY,

The 14th, 15th, and 16th days of October.

Owners and Breeders of Stock, from all parts of the United States, are invited to bring their STOCK to the Exhibition.

All Animals must be on the ground by 10 o'clock A. M., on TUESDAY, the 14th.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Fair of the American Institute will be held at the Crystal Palace, commencing on THURSDAY, the 22d of September, and will positively close on SATURDAY, the 25th of October.

Circulars, with Premium Lists, can be had at the Office of the American Institute, No. 351 Broadway. 116-117n103

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York, offer for sale their large assortment of APPLES, standard and dwarf PEAR, CHERRIES, PEACHES, PLUMS and other Fruits.

To their stock of well-grown PLUMS, they would call especial attention.

They also offer a large assortment of the well-known and also the more rare Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs.

They also grow for massing, and can offer, at reduced rates by the quantity, the different varieties of Maples, Elms, Lindens, and other Deciduous Trees, with many sorts of Shrubs.

They would also call attention to their Evergreens, which are unusually finely rooted and symmetrically formed. Of these they can supply Norway Spruce, at prices ranging according to size and form, from $10 to $60 per hundred.

Cedars Deodora, Siberian Arbor Vitæ, White Pine, Pines Benthamiana, and others, can also be supplied for planting in masses, at moderate rates.

Their stock of ROSES is always large, and can be furnished by the quantity at greatly reduced rates.

Their Foreign Grapes are propagated from bearing vines.

Their Exotic Department includes the desirable and rare sorts, and the Plants are well grown and thrifty.

Catalogues furnished on application. 105—116

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

OFFICE No. 160 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will be held at Powelton (Philadelphia), on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Premiums from $25 to $200, amounting in the aggregate to $14,000, will be offered for the various classes of Domestic Animals, Fruits, American Wines, Vegetables, Grains, and Agricultural Implements and Machinery.

A Local Committee at Philadelphia, representing the various branches of industry, has already been appointed to co-operate with the officers of the Society in perfecting arrangements for the Exhibition. *Fifteen Thousand Dollars* have been guaranteed to meet expenses. This material aid, coupled with the excellence of the selected location, and the large amount of premiums offered, induces the expectation that the Exhibition of 1856 will be superior to any of its predecessors.

A GRAND AGRICULTURAL BANQUET,

In which ladies as well as gentlemen will participate, will take place on Friday afternoon, October 10, when distinguished speakers will address the assemblage.

Favorable arrangements with the various railroads for the transportation of stock and other articles are in progress, the terms of which will be given on application to the office.

The List of Entries, the Awards of Premiums, and the Proceedings, will be published in the Journal of the Society for 1856.

The Premium List, with the Regulations and Programme of the Exhibition, will be furnished on application to Mr. John McGowan, Assistant Secretary of the United States Agricultural Society, 160 Chestnut-street, (Rooms of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society,) or by addressing the Secretary at Boston.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, President.
WILLIAM S. KING, Secretary. 116-117n90
September 1, 1856.

FAIR OF N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

AT WATERTOWN, *Sept.* 30, *and Oct.* 1, 2, *and* 3.

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE New-York State Agricultural Society will be held at Watertown, Jefferson County, September 30, and October 1, 2, and 3.

The Rome and Watertown, and Potsdam Railroads, will carry stock and articles free, and passengers at half fares. The Lake Ontario Steamboat Company will carry stock, and articles and passengers at half fares. The Hudson River, and New-York Central Roads will carry stock and articles free, with the usual condition of payment when shipped, to be repaid if stock and articles are returned, ownership unchanged, with certificate of Exhibition.

The arrangements at Watertown will be of the most satisfactory character, and provisions for stock upon the ground, such as to enable the owners to have them upon the ground the week previous, and during the Fair, in comfortable quarters, with plenty of food.

☞ The stock and articles passing over the Rome and Watertown Railroad *must be sent the week previous to the Fair*, as the road will, the week of the Fair, be *exclusively devoted to passengers*, and trains will be run as often as may be necessary from Rome and Cape Vincent to Watertown, to transport passengers intending to attend the Exhibition without delay.

A very choice herd of Devon Cattle, and superior Short Horns and Herefords, are already entered for public sale, affording an opportunity never before given at our Fairs of purchasing the very best stock at public sale.

Entries may be made at the office on the show grounds the week previous to the Fair, or with the Secretary at Albany, at any time previous.

B. P. JONSON, Secretary.
AGRICULTURAL ROOMS, ALBANY, Aug. 23, 1856. 116-117n99

EVERGREEN TREES AT LOW PRICES.

MESSES. ELLWANGER & BARRY solicit the attention of Nurserymen, Planters and Dealers in Trees, to their immense stock of Evergreens, by far the largest ever offered in the United States. They are prepared to furnish the following at the extremely low prices annexed.

☞ All frequently transplanted, and, therefore, finely formed and well rooted.

	per 100	per 1,000
Norway Spruce 5 feet	$60 00	$500 00
" 4 "	40 00	350 00
" 3 "	25 00	225 00
" 2 "	18 00	150 00
" 1½ "	15 00	120 00
" 1 "	10 00	70 00
Norway 4 years Seedlings, 2 years transplanted		30 00
" 1 year, from Seed bed		10 00
Scotch Pine 12 inches	10 00	80 00
" 9 "	8 00	60 00
Austrian Pine 10 to 12 inches	12 00	90 00
" 6 to 9 "	10 00	80 00
Arbor Vitæ Siberian 3 feet, beautiful plants	40 00	
" " 2 " "	30 00	
" Am., bushy, for hedges 2 to 2 1-2 ft	8 00	60 00
" " " 1 to 1 1-2 ft	5 00	40 00

Arbor Golden, a beautiful tree, 1 1-2 to 2 ft., $9 per dozen.

	per doz.
Himalaya Spruce (Abies Morinda) 2 to 3 feet	$10 00
Pinsapo Spruce (A Pinsapo) fine broad plants, 10 in. high	9 00
Chili Pine (Auracaria imbricata) in pots, 12 to 18 in.	9 00
Deodar Cedar, 2 to 3 feet, beautiful plants	9 00
African or Silver Cedar (C. Africana, or Argeutea) beautiful, 1 1-2 to 2 feet, (more hardy than Deodar)	9 00
Japan Cedar (Cryptomeria) beautiful Seedlings in pots 3 ft.	10 00
Funebral Cypress (Cupressus Funebris) in pots, 1 foot	5 00
Twisted or Bhotan Cypress (C. Torulosa) in pots, 1 foot	4 00
Yew, English 1 1-2 to 2 feet	4 00
" 1 "	3 00
" 6 inches	2 00
" Golden (Elegantissima) 9 to 12 inches	5 00
" Irish or upright, 1 1-2 to 2 feet	5 00
" " 1 foot, $3 per doz., $18 per 100.	
" " 6 inches, $2 per doz., $12 per 100.	

For further details, we refer to our wholesale Catalogue, sent gratis to all who apply and inclose a stamp. Address

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
116n91 Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

WM. R. PRINCE & CO, FLUSHING, offer for present planting:—

STRAWBERRIES—An unrivalled Collection, of which new Descriptive Catalogue is now ready.

Bulbous Roots and Chinese Peonies, of the most splendid varieties, finest Rhubarb, Large German Asparagus, Madder, Licorice, &c.

In October—CHINESE POTATO, snow white, the most estimable of all esculents.

Also, Trees, and Plants, and Seeds of all kinds. 116-n85

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful sciences. Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No. 119 Washington-st., Boston. Sample copies sent when ordered.

TO NURSERYMEN.

STOCKS AND SEEDLING TREES.

We solicit the attention of the Trade to the following articles, which we are prepared to furnish this fall at the annexed low rates—all are exceedingly vigorous and well grown.

	per 1,000
Magnolia Acuminata, 3 year Seedlings, 2 feet	$50 00
" " 1 "	40 00
Elm, American, 2 year Seedlings	15 00
Horse Chestnut, 3 "	60 00
" 2 "	40 00
Oak, White American, 3 years	20 00
" Red " 3 "	20 00
Butternut, 3 year Seedlings, 2 to 3 feet	40 00
Black Walnut, 3 year Seedlings, 2 to 3 feet	40 00
Maple, Silver, 2 "	12 00
" Scarlet, 2 "	20 00
" Sugar, 1 "	6 00
" " 1 to 2 feet	30 00
Larch, European, 2 feet	50 00
Catalpa, " 1 foot	40 00
Mahonia, or Ashberry, one of the finest Evergreen Shrubs, 2 year Seedlings	50 00
Do. 1 year Seedlings	20 00
Plum Seedlings, 1 year, native	10 00
Pear " 1 "	10 00
Cherry, Mazzard, 1 "	4 00
" Mahaleb, Strong	15 00
Manetti Rose, Stocks, Strong	40 00

For further particulars, we beg to refer to our wholesale Catalogue, sent gratis to all who apply and inclose a stamp.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
116n92 Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.
September, 1856.

FRESH IMPORTED HYACINTHS, TULIPS, &C.

THE SUBSCRIBERS HAVE JUST RECEIVED an unusually fine and extensive assortment of Double and Single Hyacinths, Tulips, Polyanthus Narcissus, Double Narcissus, Jonquilles, Crocus, Crown Imperials, Fritillarias, Gladiolus, Irus, Ixias, Lilies, Arums, Anemones, Ranunculus, Colchicums, Snowdrops, Aconites, Oxalis, Lachenalias, Amaryllis, Early Roman Narcissus, to which they invite the attention of amateurs.

Retail Descriptive Catalogues, with directions for culture, furnished applicants enclosing a stamp for return postage.

Dealers and Nurserymen supplied in quantities at as low rates as usually paid for the refuse bulbs from auction.

A good assortment of Hyacinth Glasses, Fancy Crocus Pots, &c., &c.

JAMES M THORBURN & CO.,
116-118n89 No. 15 John-street, New-York

BULBOUS FLOWER ROOTS.

We have now on hand a large stock of choice Bulbs, and are receiving a new invoice from Holland, consisting of the finest

Hyacinths, Double and Single,
Tulips of all the Classes,
Crown Imperials,
Crocus, Jonquils, Narcissus,
Japan and other Lilies,
Gladiolus, a superb collection of new, and all the older sorts, &c., &c., &c.

We are prepared to furnish all, at low rates, in large or small quantities, and solicit orders during the month of September, before the busy season opens.

☞ Priced Catalogues forwarded *gratis*.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
116n94 Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.
September, 1856.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

ELLWANGER & BARRY have the pleasure of announcing to their customers and the public in general, that they have now on their grounds for the ensuing fall trade, a very large and complete stock of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, embracing

Standard and Dwarf Apple Trees;
Standard and Dwarf Pear Trees;
Standard and Dwarf, Cherry and Plum, Peaches, Apricots, Nectarines, &c.;
Quinces, large Orange, fine grafted plants;
Gooseberries, of the best sorts, a large stock;
Currants, including the newest and finest sorts, upwards of three hundred thousand plants;
Raspberries, including Brinkle's Orange and several new and fine everbearing sorts;
Blackberries, High Bush, and New-Rochelle or Lawton, a large stock.

Besides Walnuts, Chesnuts, Filberts, and all other fruits usually cultivated.

Grapes, Native and Foreign, in large quantities;
Strawberries, all the best, new and old sorts;
Rhubarb, Asparagus, &c.

ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBBERY, &c.

Deciduous Ornamental Trees, for streets, parks, lawns, cemeteries, &c.;
Flowering Shrubs;
Roses, an immense collection, old and new, covering upwards of *five acres* of land.
Evergreen Trees, including *half a million* Norway Spruce, of all sizes;
Weeping Trees, everything desirable;
Double Dahlias and Bulbous Roots;
Hedge Plants of all sorts;
Stocks and Seedling Plants for nurserymen;
Green-House and Bedding out Plants, a full assortment.

Nurserymen and dealers dealt with on the most liberal terms, and amateurs' orders attended to with the greatest care.

Packing done in the most thorough and skillful manner, and with the best material.

For full particulars, we refer to special advertisements, and to the following Catalogues, sent gratis to all who apply and enclose a stamp for each.

No. 1. Descriptive Catalogue of Fruits.
No. 2. Descriptive Catalogue of Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c.
No. 3. Catalogue of Dahlias, Green-house and Bedding Plants.
No. 4. Wholesale or Trade List.
No. 5. Supplemental Catalogue of Fruits.

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
116n95 Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.
September, 1856.

RASPBERRY PLANTS.

PURE RED ANTWERP OR NORTH RIVER VARIETY.

The Subscriber has a few thousand

SUPERIOR PLANTS,

of the above variety, which he will dispose of at the rate of $4 per hundred or $30 per thousand for the large size. Small plants at half the above prices.

SAMUEL SEYMOUR,
115-117n81 South Norwalk, Conn.

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others :

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes,
Spades,
Cultivators,
Picks,
Wheelbarrows,
Road-Scrapers,
Shovels,
Harrows,
Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills,
Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers,
Shingle Machines,
Apple Parers,
Saw Machines,
Scales,
Rakes,
Cotton Gins,
Gin Gear.
Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks,
Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

PORTABLE CIDER MILL AND PRESS.—This very desirable and approved machine I am now manufacturing in the best manner. It will make more cider than any other press with a given quantity of apples, and in a given time. The cider made from it is of the best quality. Cider can be made with this mill when, and in quantities as required. It is also useful for pressing currants, berries, cheese, butter, &c. For sale by R. L. ALLEN, No. 189 and 191 Water-st.

FAN MILLS AND CORN SHELLERS. Allen's celebrated Fan Mills, the best in use, of a variety of sizes—made when desired extra heavy with pulley for horse power, Also Grant's snperior patent Fan Mill.

Corn Shellers of a variety of patterns for hand or horse power. For sale hy

R. L. ALLEN, No. 189 and 191 Water-st.

HORSE POWERS AND THRESHERS.—I have for sale the best and most approved made in the United States, viz :

Allen's celebrated one horse endless chain power.
Emery's Patent do do do
Allen's celebrated two do do do
Emery's patent two do do do
Trimble's one to four horse iron circular power.
Warren's do do do do

Eddy's or Tasslin's superior wood and wrought iron one to six horse circular power.

Hall's or Pitts one to eight horse iron circular power, much used in California and other Western State

THRESHERS.

Allen's or Emery's Threshers with or without Separators.

Eddy's Iron Cylinder Threshers.

Hall's or Pitts and other make Threshers and Cleaners combined, for two to eight horses.

R. L. ALLEN, Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water st., New-York

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept* 4, 1855.

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation, (the plants which abouod in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address, WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

N. B.—Plants will he furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs. 111—tfn42

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz : Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—DRAINING and IRRIGATION in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines, wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission. SHIPMAN & HAMMOND,
111—121n48 No. 63 Trinity Buildings, 111 Broadway, N. Y

A WORD TO FARMERS AND DAIRYMEN.—If you have butter, poultry, eggs, or any other articles of table use, which you will sell low for cash, please apply to the principal Express Agent in your neighhorhood. Likely, we will put him in funds to buy of you if we can agree upon prices.

We are in want of half a tun of nice turkeys, chickens and geese, every week, at our Express Produce Store, No. 33 Broadway. A tun or two of first rate table butter, upon consignment, to sell to consumers would be very acceptable.

Commission for effecting sales, for cash, five per cent, and NO OTHER CHARGES WHATEVER.

A. L. STIMSON,
Agent for the Sale of Farmers' Produce, and the purchase of Goods ordered by Express, No. 33 Broadway, New-York.

REFERENCES—The American Express Company; Wells, Rutterfield & Co.; the Adams Express Company; the National Express Company; Thompson & Co.'s Express; and Cheney, Fiske & Co.'s. 110tfn32

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasonable price R. L. ALLEN 189 Water-st

---

KINDERHOOK NURSERY.

THE SUBSCRIBER HAVING PURCHASED of Henry Snyder the above Nursery, has now ready his Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, which will be sold at very low prices.

Persons applying by mail, enclosing stamp, will receive prompt attention. Address JOHN H. CORNING,
116-117n86 Valatie Post-Office.

NEW-ROCHELLE (LAWTON) BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants for sale on liberal terms by the subscriber.
SIMEON LESTER,
New-Rochelle,
Westchester Co., N. Y.

Can apply for information at
J. W. LESTER'S,
No. 161 Water-street.

116-121n104

FIVE DIPLOMAS AND TWO PREMIUMS
AWARDED IN 1855.

CANS MADE BY
NEW DOUBLE PATENT PROCESS,
RENDERING LEAKAGE IMPOSSIBLE.

Above is a representation of a Canister, with a patent attachment, designed for preserving fruits and vegetables of all kinds in a perfectly fresh state, with their natural shape, color, and flavor. It is termed the

"SELF-SEALING CAN,"

and so called because soldering is dispensed with in closing up the aperture of the can, and because by the simple turning of a cap, the outward atmosphere is wholly excluded.

With these cans, and directions given with them, such fruits as Apples, Pears, Peaches, Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, &c, &c. and such vegetables as Tomatoes, Green Peas, Green Corn, Beans, and indeed, every species of either, may be preserved for years in their fresh state, without the addition of salt, sugar, or acid, or any other preservative property whatever.

Many of these fruits decay and go to waste upon the trees, bushes, and market places. Now they may be

SAVED AND USED

out of their season, for table or pastry purposes.

With this Canister they can be preserved economically; as sugar and spirits may be dispensed with.

Health is greatly promoted by the free use of

FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES,

while, on the contrary, digestion is greatly impeded, and the digestive organs impaired, by the use of preserved fruits so completely saturated with sugar as are the ordinary sweetmeats preserved by families.

These cans may be used year after year. Full directions for preserving fruit and vegetahles accompany the cans. The

MODE IS SO SIMPLE

that an ordinary house-servant, or child ten years of age, need make no error.

A little wrench should be purchased for screwing down the cover tightly, thereby making a perfect job.

N. B.—The

"GENUINE SELF-SEALING CANS"

have cast in letters, upon the top of the cap,

"SPRATT'S PATENT,"

" Wells & Provost, Proprietors, New York."

☞ All the cans are guaranteed to answer

FULLY AND PERFECTLY

the purpose for which they are recommended

PRICES.

Quart Cans,	per dozen,	$2 50
Half Gallon Cans,	do	3 50
Gallon Cans,	do	5 00
Wrenches,	do	75

WELLS & PROVOST,
Sole Proprietors.

Warehouse for the sale of the Cans, &c., No. 321 Pearl-street, near Franklin square.

☞ A Liberal Discount to Agents.

As evidence of the superiority of Spratt's Patent Can over all others, we give below a list of premiums and diplomas awarded at the fairs of the several Institutions, where they were exhibited last season in competition.

LIST OF DIPLOMAS,
AWARDED DURING 1855.

American Institute, at Crystal Palace, Oct. 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Maryland Institute, held at Baltimore, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Philadelphia Agricultural Society, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
New Jersey State Fair, at Camden, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
Summit County Fair, Ohio, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.
New York State Fair, Elmira, 1855, 1st Premium.
Connecticut State Fair, Hartford, 1855, Diploma, 1st class.

n77—115-116

CALIFORNIAN EVERGREENS.

We havo a small stock of the following fino Californian trees' which we offer at the annexed pricos. They are all kept in pots for their greater safety in transportation, and can be forwarded at any moment.

	Prices. each.	doz.
Sequoia gigantea (Wellingtonia gigantea) the celebrated "big tree," 2 year Seedlings, 12 in. (strong)	$3 00	$24 00
" " 6 "	2 60	18 00
Taxodium Sempervirens, the "Red Wood," 2 to 3 ft.		6 00
" " 1 to 2 ft.		5 00
Pinus Sabiniana, 1 year Seedlings	2 00	12 00
" Benthamiana "	50	5 00
" Jeffreyii "	2 00	
" Lambertiana "	2 00	
" Monticola "	2 00	
" Tuberculata "	3 00	
" Frazeri "	2 00	
" Californica "	2 00	

ELLWANGER & BARRY,
116n93 Mount Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.
September, 1856.

LAWTON (OR NEW-ROCHELLE)

BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

☞ PRICES REDUCED. ☜

The subscribers have become Agents for the sale of the genuine Lawton (or New Rochelle) Blackberry Plants raised by Messrs. George Seymour & Co. of South Norwalk, Conn., and Messrs. Hallock of Milton, N. Y.

We are prepared to receive large orders tho coming Fall and Spring, deliverable from the middle of October until the ground freezes, and from the middle of March until the middle of May.

PRICES.

$20 00 per hundred plants,
11 00 " fifty "
4 00 " dozen "
2 25 " half dozen "

Cost of package for a dozen or half dozen, 12 1-2 cents; for fifty or a hundred, 25 cents—larger packages proportionably less.

The name of the grower, who will *personally* superintend the taking up and packing, with directions for setting and cultivating, will accompany each package.

The plants raised by these parties have been during the last year forwarded to *every part of the country*, and very few instances of failure have occurred, although the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Orders must be accompanied by the cash to ensure fulfillment.

We are permitted to refer to
Hon. Horace Greeley, Editor New-York Tribune;
Orange Judd, Esq., " American Agriculturist;
James J. Mapes, Esq., " Working Farmer;
Solon Robinson, Esq., Agricultural Editor New-York Tribune;
Thomas Drew, Esq., Editor Worcester Spy, Worcester, Mass.;
Stafford Cleveland, Esq., " Yates County Whig;
James S. Gibbons, Esq., No. 10 Wall-street, New-York;
Richard H. Manning, Esq., No. 54 Cortlandt-street.

N. B.—Orders should be given as early in the season as practicable, and will be filled in the order of their reception.

Pamphlets may be obtained of us on application by mail or otherwise, free of charge, giving statement of origin, history and characteristics, &c.

DREW & FRENCH,
Fruit and Produce Dealers,
116-118n97 No. 85 Barclay-street, New-York.

LAWTON
BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

The Subscribers announce to their friends and customers that they have now

OVER SIX ACRES
of the
GENUINE LAWTON
BLACKBERRY PLANTS

under cultivation, and in good condition.

They are therefore prepared to fill large orders the coming FALL and the following SPRING.

PRICES.

$25	per	Hundred plants.
$12 50	per	Fifty plants.
$5	per	Dozen plants.
$2 50	per	Half dozen plants.

N. B. All plants ordered of us will be TAKEN up and PACKED with the GREATEST CARE; and UNDER OUR OWN PERSONAL SUPERVISION. Of the MANY THOUSANDS sent out by us last year we have heard very few instances of failure, notwithstanding that they have been forwarded to EVERY PART OF THE COUNTRY, and the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Printed directions for setting and cultivating are sent with every package.

GEORGE SEYMOUR & CO.,
South Norwalk, Conn.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS
PRICES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1856.

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING. A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city. WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
111—tfn41 or at New-Rochelle, N. Y

THE NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.

THE SUBSCRIBER, BEING ONE OF the oldest and most successful cultivators of this superior fruit, offers for sale well-rooted Plants of good size, carefully packed so as to go safely to any part of the world, and deliverable in November, March or April, at

$4 PER DOZEN, OR $25 PER HUNDRED.

Full directions for their cultivation given with each parcel of Plants.

N. B.—This is the same BLACKBERRY which is by some, though erroneously, called the "*Lawton*" BLACKBERRY.

ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
116 118n102 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

INGERSOLL'S IMPROVED, PORTABLE, HAY AND COTTON PRESSES,

A Silver Medal for which was awarded at the late Fair of the American Institute ; also, at the Fairfield County Fair, in Conn.

This Press combines *greater power and durability, requires less labor, occupies less space, and costs less money* than any other Machine for baling Hay or Cotton, ever offered to the public.

And on account of its CHEAPNESS, COMPACTNESS, PORTABILITY and GREAT POWER, it is exactly adapted to the wants and means of every farmer, and it is believed to be far superior, in every respect, to any other machine of the kind now manufactured.

The *Scientific American* of April 5, 1856, says of it:

"It will be observed that this press is extremely simple and cheap in its construction, while at the same time it is strong and powerful ; it is also very compact and convenient, readily moved from place to place, &c. It may be employed for pressing cotton and other substances, with the same facility as hay. We regard it as a very excellent improvement."

The great inconvenience and annual expense of wear and breakage in the use of the *Roller*, *Ratchet*, Rope and Chain, is entirely obviated in this invention.

We have numerous letters from those who have seen and used these presses during the past season, similar to the following from Wm. Thompson, Esq., South Londonderry, Vt., who writes Feb. 8, 1856, as follows:

"*Gentlemen*:—I think your Press, with the improvement you have made recently, will exceed anything of the kind yet got up, for it will press more in a day, with only two hands to work it, and do it easier, than any other press in New-England."

By the use of this Press, the farmer who resides far inland, and who has been prevented from transporting his hay to market on account of its great bulk, may so far reduce the cost of transportation, by compressing the hay into solid and compact bales, as to make this valuable product one of the most profitable articles of farm culture.

☞ The smallest size will give a pressure of *eight to ten tons*, and a bale of hay can be pressed in about *one minute.* The Presses can readily be made of ANY SIZE or SHAPE desired. The regular sizes now made at the factory are:

Size No. 1, designed to make a bale of Hay, weighing from 175 to 200 lbs. Price $50.

Size No. 2, designed to make a bale of Hay, weighing from 300 to 350 lbs. Price $75.

Size No. 3 is of immense power and strength, and is designed more especially for HEMP, FLAX or HAY for shipping to distant ports, or where great compactness is required. Weight of bale 350 lbs. Price $125.

COTTON PRESS. PRICE $150.

This *economical, portable* and *highly approved Press*, has been thoroughly tested, and we would especially call the attention of planters and others to this improvement before purchasing elsewhere. The pressing room is 52 1-2 cubic feet. It will hold of Cotton, if properly trod down, 500 pounds. The bale will be 5 feet long, 2 feet wide, and 2 1-2 thick, containing 25 cubic feet, or 20 pounds to the foot. Outside measure 7 1-4 feet high, 7 feet long, 3 feet wide ; weight about 1,400 pounds.

TOBACCO PRESS. PRICE $125.

This press is also very strong and heavily ironed, possessing great power, occupying but little room, and adapted to pressing tobacco into the hogshead without the loss of time and labor common to the *Screw Press.* The cask sets on the pressing platform and is *pressed up* against a suitable head piece ; then lowered, filled and pressed again, and so on until the cask is full. This is accomplished with great facility and convenience, and may be done with two hands. The portability, the small space occupied, and the low price of this Press, are advantages which cannot fail to meet with the approval of planters, and a large sale throughout the tobacco-growing States.

These Presses are so *compact*, that they are sent by ship, canal or railroad, most conveniently and in the best order without being taken to pieces ; thus saving expense to the purchaser.

This Improvement, combining the principle of a *continuous lifting power*, is at once very great, very compact and very cheap ; being much quicker, and in many applications more convenient than the screw, and we are prepared to furnish it on short notice, combining more or less power, for *Cider Mill Presses, Cheese Presses, Oil Cake, Cloth or Paper* and also for *raising* vessels, *moving* buildings, PULLING STUMPS, &c.

The expense of Machines, of course, will be in proportion to the *amount of power* required for use. The license for any of the States will be sold separately if desired, for the purposes herein specified. Persons wishing to engage in making and selling these various indispensable Machines, will find, on application to this Company, a rare chance for an investment.

Presses on hand and orders filled for any size, without delay.

Address

FARMERS' & MECHANICS' MANUFACTURING CO.,
Green Point, Kings Co., L. I.
H. F. DOUGHERTY, President.
P. C. INGERSOLL, Secretary.

N. B.—The same company are manufacturing INGERSOLL'S IMPROVED, PORTABLE HAND-POWER MACHINES, for *Sawing down Trees, Sawing off Logs, &c., &c.*, to which the particular attention of the Public is called. 116n98.

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

HARROWS ; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

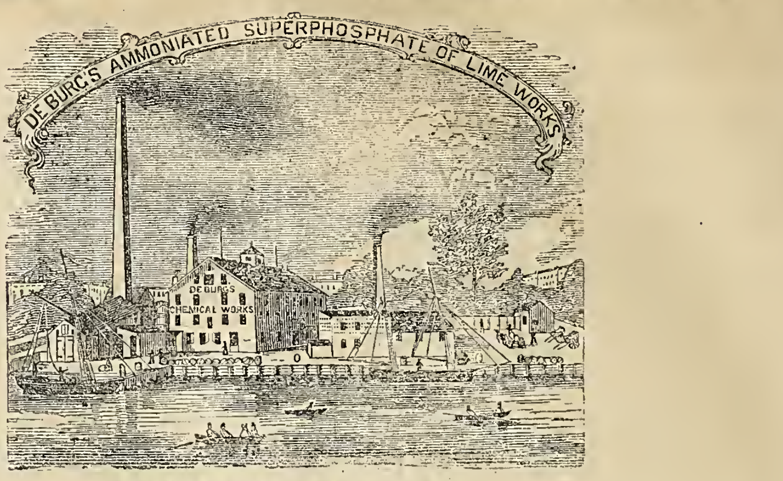
SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices;

For sale by R. L. ALLEN;
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.


DE BURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DE BURG'S CHEMICAL WORKS

DEBURG'S
AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places ; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my prsposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to statethat many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feb. 1st(orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City.

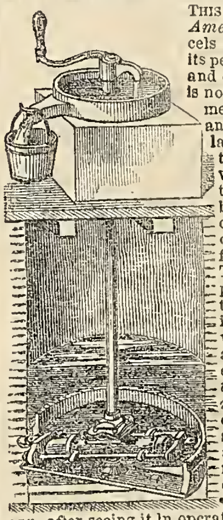
CASH PRICE, $50 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

C. B. DEBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I.
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.
109—116n

Lindsey's Double-Acting
ROTARY FORCE PUMP.



THIS pump has just been patented in *America* and *England*, and far excels any pump heretofore invented; its peculiarities are *simplicity, power*, and *cheapness.* Its simplicity ; there is nothing about it but iron and cast metal, and it can be taken apart and put up by any one, and will last for an age. It has the power to raise water *hundreds of feet*, with the extra expense of $3 and the price of pipe. Water rises in it by hand 100 feet per minute ! For cheapness ; a No. 1. pump (for all ordinary purposes) complete, and fifty feet of pipe, costs but $30 ! The handle at the top, turns the pipe and pump, and every revolution fills the cylinder twice, affording an abundant supply of water with the least possible expense and labor, It is peculiarly adapted to *deep wells, rail road stations, salt works, mining and manufacturing purposes.* Wherever it is introduced, the old force, suction and chain pumps will disappear. Practical and scientific men pronounce it as without an equal, for all that is here claimed for it. The *Scientific American*, after seeing it in operation, says: "*This pump is very simple in construction, not liable to get out of order, durable, easily operated and economical; we regard it as an excellent improvement.*" Circulars with an accurate drawing and full description sent free of charge to all parts of the country. No. 1, has a one inch pipe ; No. 2, 1¼ inches ; No. 3, 1½ inches ; and the prices $30, $42, $54 ; the No. 2 and 3 are designed for *very deep wells, railroad stations, &c.* where much water is required. The subscriber is the general agent for the sale of these pumps to all parts of the world, and *exclusive agent for* NEW YORK. Orders must be accompanied by the *cash*, and should be explicit as to the kind of pump wanted, depth of well, shipping address, &c. They will meet prompt attention. A pump and pipe weighs about 170 lbs. No charge for shipping or cartage. Wells over 50 feet should have extra gearing, which costs $3.

JAMES M. EDNEY,
Com. Merchant, 56 John St. N. Y.
For sale by H. LINDSEY, Inventor, Asheville, N. C.
113—118n69

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.
For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-street.

FOR WHEAT AND GRASS LAND.

THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY are preparing, and have now for sale, to use upon Winter Grain and Grass, a large quantity of TAFEU every 100 pounds of which they will warrant to be composed of

70 pounds of Dried Night Soil, and screened through a 1-4 inch screen;

25 pounds No. 1 Peruvian Guano; and

5 pounds Calcined Plaster, and nothing else.

This article we desire to have tested alongside of any other fertilizer in market at the same cost, believing it is fully equal, if not superior to any other. Price $35 per ton, delivered on board of vessel or railroad in the city of New-York.

Also POUDRETTE in large or small quantities constantly on hand, and ready for delivery at the usual price, $1 50 per barrel for any quantity over seven barrels.

The Lodi Manufacturing Company have been engaged over seventeen years in the manufacture of Poudrette ; have one hundred thousand dollars permanently invested in the business, and have purchased for five years to come, the entire monopoly of all the Night Soil from the city of New-York, and are therefore deeply interested in the reputation of their manufactures.

A Pamphlet will be sent gratis to any one applying to
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
116-117n87 No. 60 Cortlandt-street, New-York.

PERUVIAN GUANO—*At lowest market prices*, wholesale and retail—with Government weight and brand on each bag, for sale at the
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT AND SEED
Warehouse of R. L. ALLEN,
Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.
ALLEN'S CELEBRATED MOWING MACHINE
CANNOT CLOG.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, &c.

BONE DUST, ground and sawings. Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For salo by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE,
AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,
C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL

OVER TWO MILLION OF ACRES

OF

FARMING LANDS,

IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,

ON LONG CREDIT AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and include some of the richest and most fertile prairies in the State, interspersed here and there with magnificent groves of oak and other timber. The road extends from Chicago, on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the north-west extreme of the State, and as all the lands lie within fifteen miles on each side of this road, ready and cheap means are afforded by it for transporting the products of the lands to any of those points, and from thence to Eastern and Southern markets. Moreover, the rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages, along the line, and the great increase in population by immigration, etc., afford a substantial and growing home demand for farm produce.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken sod, usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from $2 to $2.50 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern market, and to Cairo for the Southern. The larger yield on the cheap lands of Illinois over the high-priced lands in the Eastern and Middle States, is known to be much more than sufficient to pay the difference of transportation to the Eastern market.

Bituminous coal is mined at several points along the road, and is a cheap and desirable fuel. It can be delivered at several points along the road at $1 50 to $4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord.

Those who think of settling in Iowa or Minnesota, should bear in mind, that lands there of any value, along the water courses, and for many miles inland, have been disposed of—that for those located in the interior, there are no conveniences for transporting the produce to market, railroads not have been introduced there. That to send the produce of these lands one or two hundred miles by wagon to market, would cost much more than the expense of cultivating them; and hence, Government lands thus situated, at $1 25 per acre, are not so good investments as the land of this Company at the prices fixed.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road, and others with which it connects, the operation, of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from $5 to $25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made during the year 1856, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, $150 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

Special arrangements with dealers can be made to supply those purchasing the Company's lands with fencing materials, agricultural tools, and an outfit of provisions in any quantity, at the lowest wholesale prices.

It is believed that the price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter, in English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.
Office, up to the 1st of May, No. 52 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. After that date, in the new stone Passenger Depot, foot South Water-street. 112—117n51

THE INDEPENDENT,

A

WEEKLY RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Circulation over 25,600!!!

Rapidly Increasing

AMONG ITS MANY DISTINGUISHED WRITERS ARE

REV. GEORGE B. CHEEVER, D. D.
REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER,
GOV. LOUIS KOSSUTH,
M. LOUIS CZERNATONY,
MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE,
MR. CHARLES L. BRACE,
DEAN,
MINNIE MYRTLE,
ANNIE H.,
M. E. W.,
M. L. E.,
And numerous others.

CORRESPONDENTS

from all sections of the Union; from England, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and the Holy Land, contribute to enrich the columns of THIS JOURNAL.

That no other weekly religious newspaper ever met with the success of *The Independent* must now be universally admitted. It has been the aim of the proprietors, without regard to expense, to make it rank in point of talent as high as the best journal of a similar character in the world; and to make it popular *only* so far as this could be done by treading boldly and firmly in the path of Christian duty—"not as pleasing men, but God."

A crisis has arrived when every Christian is called upon to ask, "Lord, what wilt thou have *me* to do" in a conflict for principle and human rights as great as the world has ever seen. No voice can now be silent with impunity. If the religious press or Christian men now refuse either to speak or to act, the very stones will cry out for Heaven's sorest judgments, and we shall be left as a nation to fill up the measure of our iniquity.

Now is the time to prove who are the true lovers of liberty, and to demonstrate who are the worthy descendants of the fathers of the Revolution, who were willing to lay down their lives to secure for this fair country an inheritance of freedom.

The Independent will enter the field side by side with *all* who desire to do battle for *truth, justice,* and *humanity.* With all the power God may give it, it will urge the Christian public to do with their might what their hands find to do to save our beloved country from the death-grasp of Slavery. It will advocate freedom of speech, freedom of the press, free soil, free men, and —— Fremont for the next President. Those who think a religious paper should not thus freely join with the secular press in doing this extraordinary work, are informed that the matter has been calmly considered, the cost counted, and the conclusion deliberately and conscientiously arrived at, that duty to God and man precludes a moment's hesitation as to the course which ought to be taken by this paper. Those who sympathize with it, of every name and party, and they are *thousands,* will aid the cause by doing all they can to extend its circulation.

Those unacquainted with *The Independent* are informed that the paper will furnish articles weekly as follows:

1st. Religious Editorials, Selections, and current Religious News.
2d. Editorials discussing the great Moral and Political Questions of the Day.
3d. Communications from regular weekly contributors, embracing every variety of topic suited to a Christian family—to the *living,* not to the dead.
4th. Foreign and Domestic Correspondence.
5th. Reviews and Special Articles on important topics by the ablest living writers.
6th. An Article on Agriculture, embracing information from all parts of the country in relation to the condition of the crops.
7th. A Review of the New-York Cattle and Produce Market.
8th. A Price Current, carefully corrected weekly.
9th. A Commercial and Financial Article, embracing topics suited especially to business life, and containing all the important news of the day, including a List of Failures from all parts of the country.
10th. Poetry, Religious Items, Reports of Public Meetings, Book Notices and Reviews, and other matters interesting to the reading public.

TERMS.—By Mail, $2 00 per annum in advance,

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Fifteen cents per line each insertion.

SPECIMEN NUMBERS sent gratis.

Office, No. 22 Beekman-street, New-York.
JOSEPH H. LADD,
Publisher.
August, 1856. 116-118n96

THE TEETH vs. THE HEALTH.

EVERYBODY KNOWS the pleasures of an aching tooth, and nothing need be said upon that head. But

EVERYBODY does not fully appreciate how much good health depends upon having food well masticated, for which, of course, GOOD TEETH are necessary. Said the Editor of the Agriculturist recently:

"I have kept myself and my *Children* in *perfect health* during the present year, by simply taking especial care to have *every* particle of food thoroughly mashed or pulverized before going into the stomach. In this way nothing of a hard nature, like a piece of potato, fruit, meat or other food goes into the intestines to produce irritation, and the consequent diarrhœa, dysentery and other bowel complaints."

Every consideration speaks strongly in favor of preserving the teeth we have, and of supplying those already gone.

Those who wish any operations upon their teeth performed *honestly, carefully, skilfully,* in short, in the *best possible manner,* and upon *reasonable terms,* will do well to call upon DR. BENJAMIN F. ADAMS, at No. 122 Chambers-street, New-York, (a little west of the City Hall.)

Dr. ADAMS has given exclusive attention to operations upon the teeth for over fourteen years, and confidently refers to the thousands of persons who have been under his care.

Dr. ADAMS may always be found at his office, so that persons coming in from the country may depend upon having any desired operation performed immediately on their arrival.

Whole or Part Sets of Incorruptible Teeth inserted without pain, on Gold Plate or Gutta Percha, excelling nature in beauty and durability, by aid of the various modern inventions and the subscriber's recent improvements. Spongy, bleeding, or ulcerated gums speedily cured. Partly decayed teeth saved with gold, tin, or patent fillings, and their preservation warranted. No impure gold or dangerous amalgams used.

Irregularities in children's teeth prevented, or of adults remedied. Cleansing, extracting, &c., &c., *all at low prices.*

Satisfaction in regard to color, form, and translucency of all teeth inserted, in block or single, is in all cases warranted.

The great delicacy and caution observed in all operations, with the aid of recently improved and superior instruments, dispense with all necessity of chloroform or other narcotics in the most irritable nervous system.

Teeth examined, and advice given *free of charge.*

BENJAMIN F. ADAMS,
116n101 No. 122 Chambers-street.

YOUATT'S CONDITION POWDERS, For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP and SWINE—cures Heaves, Cough, Glanders, and all diseases resulting from Colds, and which affect the mucous membrane of the lungs, throat and head of the Horse. Also expels Botts and Worms, loosens the hide, improves the appetite, and keeps the animal in good condition. Youatt's Condition Powders are recommended to all who take a pride in preserving the good health and fine appearance of their Stock. Price 50 cents a package. Sold at wholesale by Haviland, Harral & Risley, Wholesale Druggists, No. 39 Warren-st., and by dealers generally. 114-119n70

GRENOBLE HOSE.—A superior Hose, manufactured of the finest Hemp—a cheap and excellent substitute for Leather and Gutta Percha. It is especially recommended to Planters, Nurserymen, Fire Companies, Steamboats, Manufactories, Dwellings, &c. It costs less than half the price of leather, is lighter, stands as much pressure, is as durable, and is not subjected for its preservation to the expense of oiling or greasing, neither is it injured by frost.

For sale, and orders for importation received in sizes from 1 to 7 inches in diameter, by CHARLES LENZMANN, 54 Cedar-st., New-York, where certificates of its superior qualities can be examined, from Alfred Carson, Esq., Chief Engineer of the New-York Fire Department; from James McFarlan, Esq., Chief Engineer of the Union Ferry Co., and also from official authorities of some of the large cities of Europe. 114-116n73

PORTABLE FORGES AND BELLOWS,
(QUEENS PATENT,)

THE best Forge in market for Blacksmiths' work, Boiler makers, Mining, Quarrying, Shipping, plantations, Contractors on Railroads and Public Works, Coppersmiths, Gas Fitters, &c., &c.

Also, an improved PORTABLE MELTING FURNACE for Jewellers, Dentists, Chemists, &c.

Both of these are constructed with sliding doors to protect the fire from wind and rain when used out doors, and for perfect safety and free escape of smoke when used indoors. They are compact for Shippping.

Circulars with particulars and prices will be forwarded upon application.

FREDERICK P. FLAGLER,
Sole Manufacturer, 210 Water-st., New-York.
85—116n119 0N8

A CHANCE TO MAKE MONEY.

PROFITABLE AND HONORABLE EMPLOYMENT.

THE SUBSCRIBER IS DESIROUS OF having an agent in each county and town of the Union. A capital of from $5 to $10 only will be required, and anything like an efficient, energetic man, can make from $3 to $5 per day; some of the Agents are realizing twice that sum. Every information will be given by addressing, with a stamp to pay return letter,

WM. A. KINSLER,
116n88 Box 1228 Philadelphia, Pa., Post-Office.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 8-30

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &c.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, August 28, 1856.

The Breadstuffs market still continues unsettled. The actual results of the past harvest in Europe are not yet fully known, and it is unknown how great a demand may be made upon us: In our own country the yield of wheat has undoubtedly been a good one, though not an over crop. What is more important, the harvest occurred during fine weather, and this crop was gathered in excellent order. Everything considered, we do not see how the present prices can be sustained, though it is quite doubtful whether a very low rate will be attained for wheat. The corn crop, put back and in some places severely injured by drouth, defect of seed, &c., is now coming forward finely.

The following table shows the total receipts of flour and grain in this city by Railroad, River, Canal and Coastwise, for 27 business days ending to-day:

Flour..	297,000 bbls.	Rye..	50,000 bush.
Wheat.	1,298,000 bush.	Oats..	247,000 bush.
Corn...	1,561,500 bush.		

We find upon our note-book records of the following sales in this city for 27 business days ending to-day:

Flour...	356,600 bbls.	Corn.	1,662,000 bush.
Wheat.	1,436,300 bush	Rye..	100,650 bush.

The following figures show the present prices of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

		July 29.	August 29.
Flour—Ordinary State		$5 90@ 6 00	$6 00@6 10
Mixed Western		5 25@ 7 00	5 70@ 7 50
Favorite and Ex. State		6 10@ 6 40	6 25@ 6 60
Extra Genesee		6 75@ 7 75	7 00@ 9 50
Wheat—Canada White		1 70@ 1 81	1 50@ 1 60
Southern White		1 60@ 1 80	1 58@ 1 65
Southern Red		1 50@ 1 68	1 45@ 1 53
Western Red and White		1 30@ 1 55	1 25@ 1 65
Corn—Western Mixed		55@ 62	55@ 62
Yellow and White		63@ 85	60@ 68
Rye		70@ 85	87@ 88
Barley		@	@
Oats—Western, &c		34@ 45	41@ 50
Cotton—Middling and Fair.		11¾@ 11¾	11½@ 12
Rice	℔ 100lbs	3 75@ 4 50	3 65@ 4 2¼
Pork—Mess	℔ bbl.	20 25@20 37	19 25@19 35
Dressed Hogs	℔ lb.	7½@ 8¼	7¾@ 87
Lard, in bbls	℔ lb.	12¼@ 13	13@ 13½
Butter—Western	℔ lb.	12@ 18	14@ 19½
State	℔ lb.	14@ 22	18@ 24
Orange Co	℔ lb.	@	24@ 28
Cheese	℔ lb.	5½@ 8¾	6@ 9
Potatoes—Carters	℔ bbl.	@	@
Mercers	℔ bbl.	@	2 50@ 2 75
Onions—Reds	℔ bbl.	@	2 00@ 2 25
White	℔ bbl.	@	2 50@ 2 75
Apples	℔ bbl.	@	75@ 3 50

Beef Cattle have arrived pretty freely, except during the week ending Aug 20. The receipts for *five* weeks, ending Aug. 27, compare as follows:

	1855.	1856.
Total of Beeves for 5 weeks	18,349	18,601
Weekly average	3,670	3,720

Low prices prevailed on the first three market days, with an advance on the last two. A combination among sellers kept the price up yesterday, notwithstanding the large receipts for the week, amounting to 4,402. A decline may be looked for. The prices yesterday at Forty-fourth street ranged: Premium cattle 10½c.a11c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 10c.a10½c.; Medium quality, 9c.a9½c.; Poor quality, 8½c.a9c.; Poorest quality, 8c.a8½c.; General selling prices, 9½c.a10½c. Average of all sales about 10c.

Sheep have been in fair supply, though less than for the same time last year, and prices are higher. Receipts for *five* weeks ending Aug. 27:

	1855.	1856.
Total of sheep and lambs	73,942	61,841
Weekly average	14,788	12,370

Prices of Sheep and Lambs the past week have ranged from $1 62 to $5 per head, the majority of good animals bringing $2 50a$4 per head.

THE WEATHER.—As we closed our last report (July 29) a rain commenced falling, after a long drouth. During this month (August) we have had frequent rains and generally very cool weather. On the whole this has been the coldest August in 68 years we believe. A great amount of rain fell in different parts of the country during the third and first part of the fourth week of the month, producing heavy freshets which did much damage.

Our weather notes, condensed, read: July 29, warm and showery; 30, clear, hot (96°); 31, heavy rain and lightning, struck in many places; August 1, 2, 3, clear, warm; 4, cooler; 5, heavy rain all day; 6, 7, clear, cool; 8, cloudy; 9, 10, 11, clear, fine; 12, cloudy; 13, clear; 14, showers; 15, 16, 17, 18, clear, moderately cool; 19, heavy storm, rain and wind; 20, clear; 21, cool, cloudy; 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, clear, cool and pleasant; 27, clear, cool nights and mornings, flannel quite comfortable; to-day (28), slight showers.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

When the Volume will close—Back Numbers—Extra Copies for Friends—Back Volumes, &c.

We have hitherto preferred to have our Volume commence in Autumn, at the season of the Agricultural Exhibitions, but we find a general desire to have this period correspond with the year. In accordance therewith, we shall continue this Volume until December, making 15 monthly numbers in Volume XV, instead of 12. A full index will be given with the December Issue.

By this arrangement Volume XVI, will commence on January 1st, 1857, and close with that year.

An unexpected large increase of new Subscribers exhausted all of the Extra copies printed for January, February, March and April, and many hundreds more than we could furnish were called for.

Very large extra editions of the May, and June issues were printed, so that we shall be able to supply all who may call for them, either for themselves or friends. We have also on hand a number of copies for October, November and December, 1855—(that is Nos. 1, 2, and 3, of the present Volume.) Those who subscribed in January, can complete the present Volume, that is get the numbers for October, November, and December, by sending 25 cents, or 8 postage stamps.

Any back numbers on hand will be mailed post-paid to any address given, on the reception of 3 postage stamps (nine cents).

☞ Are there not many of our present readers who would esteem it a pleasure to send the American Agriculturist for a year to some neighbor, or to a distant relative or friend? A dollar will often furnish a most acceptable continuous gift, when sent in this way. Scarcely a week or even a day passes in which we do not receive a subscription of this kind. When the paper is so sent we enclose a receipted bill with the first number forwarded, noting upon it the name of the person from whom the money was received. 114—tf

☞ We sometimes send (post paid) a spare copy of the Agriculturist to persons who are not subscribers. This is occasionally done as a compliment, and at other times to invite the person receiving it to examine its merits and see if it will not be worthy of a year's, or at least six months' subscription, by way of trial. Will those who may receive such copies please look them over, and, if convenient, pass them along to their neighbors? No one need take the trouble to return papers thus received—we never send the Agriculturist when we do not consider it *paid* for, and no one need fear to subscribe for a short period, lest they "can not get rid of it" if not wanted. The paper is always stopped when the time expires for which it has been ordered and paid.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

INDEX.

Acknowledgements....283
Advertising....284
Barn-Building, a Yankee's views on....279
Birds, More about Sparing....279
Bulbs Flowering, Directions for growing....281
CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS....266
Capital invested in improving poor soils, An Example.268
Cisterns and Cistern Building....280
Cockroaches, Destroying....278
Connecticut State Agricultural Exhibition....283
Crocus....282
Crown Imperials....282
Editor's Farm Notes....273
Exhibitions, Agricultural for 1856, List of....272
Exhibitions, Agricultural....277
Fish Pie. or Fish Manure....273
Grape Growing, Important Inquiries and a suggestion283
Horses, Tea for Sick....276
Humbugs, A two cent shave, Postage Stamps, &c....270
Hyacinths....282
Illinois Central R. R. Lands....283
Lillies—Candidum or White, Tiger, &c....282
Muck, the value of Treatment, &c....275
Peas, Editors Experiments with New varieties of....268
Potatoes, the harvesting of....276
Poultry, a relick of the Past....[Illustrated]..276
Pudding, The Hasty....[Illustrated]..277
" a first rate Suet....283
Retraction, a Punctuated....274
Sandy Soils, Improving Sands....268
Scales, Agricultural....[Illustrated]..273
Snow Drops....282
Strawberry Growing, More about....281
Sub-Soiling Tim Bunker on....276
Tulips....282
Waterloo Correspondence....280
Western Land Societies—N. Y. Evangelist....277
Wheat, Sbggestions on Sowing....269
WORK FOR THE MONTH....265

American Agriculturist.

(Established in 1842.)

A THOROUGH-GOING, RELIABLE, and PRACTICAL Journal, devoted to the different departments of SOIL CULTURE—such as growing FIELD CROPS; ORCHARD and GARDEN FRUITS; GARDEN VEGETABLES and FLOWERS; TREES, PLANTS, and FLOWERS for the LAWN or YARD; IN-DOOR and OUT-DOOR work around the DWELLING; care of DOMESTIC ANIMALS, &c. &c.

☞ The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month.

A full CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS for the season is given every month.

Over FIVE HUNDRED PLAIN, PRACTICAL, instructive articles are given every year.

The Editors and Contributors are all PRACTICAL, WORKING MEN.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ In addition to the above rates: Postage to Canada 12 cents, to Europe 24 cents; Delivered in New-York City 12 cents.

Subscriptions can begin Jan. 1st, July 1st, or at other dates, if especially desired.

The paper is considered *paid for* wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st., New-York.

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 25
Ten copies of both papers one year	17 00

Printed by R. Cunnington, 191 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Gardener, and the Planter.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—Washington.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M.,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 13.] NEW-YORK, OCTOBER, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 117.

☞ **The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor at 191 Water-st. (near Fulton).**

☞ **All Business and other letters should be addressed to** ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st.,
New-York City.

☞ Personal Letters, or those for the Editor only should be marked *Private.*

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

"What is there saddening in the Autumn leaves?
Have they that "green and yellow melancholy"
That the sweet poet spake of?—Had we seen
Our variegated woods, when first the frost
Turns into beauty all October's charms—
When the dread fever quits us—when the storms
Of the wild Equinox, with all its wet,
Has left the land, as the deluge left it
With a bright bow of many colors hung
Upon the forrest tops—he had not lighted.
  The Moon stays longest for the hunter now,
The trees cast down their fruitage, and the blithe
And busy Squirrel hoards his winter store."

Brainerd.

The poet was right in questioning the melancholy tendencies of Autumn. It is not Nature, but we that are sad in these days of "the sere and yellow leaf." Nature is as hopeful and joyous in these last day's of the season, yea even more so, than when in the hight of summer, she was too busy to do aught else than work. There is as much of life now in field and forest as when the buds were bursting, and the flowers unfolded their gorgeous petals. How gloriously Nature winds up her summer work, making the "end of a thing better than the begining," a scene of real triumph. No coronation pageant of the barbaric East, flashing with gold and diamonds can equal the splendors of our October woods. All the hues of the rainbow are there, mingling with colors more sober, and making a scene that can not be adequately described, or transferred to the canvass. And then to set off this glorious pageant with most brilliant effect we have a transparent atmosphere at this season, which brings distant objects near and allows the eye to behold distinctly the minute details in a broad landscape. Italian skies are not more beautiful than ours, when the Autumn storms have swept away the vapors. It is a grand sight, to see this brilliant close of the forest's Summer work. The foliage, as if flushed with triumph, dies. Every leaf has made provision for its successor, nay it was only the teeming life of a future year that pushed it aside. Many leaves will come forth from that sleeping bud which exfoliated the fallen leaf. Its fall was buoyant with hope.

The cultivated fields too, are full of promise. Beneath the sere husks of the maize lie the seed kernels in long golden rows, the germs of future harvests. Beneath the clods, the long dark tubers are full of eyes looking out wistfully to another season. Every flower in field and forest has left its store-house full of seeds on the spot where it died. It is only to the superficial observer, that Autumn is a period of melancholy. Look beneath its surface and it glows with the beauty of life. It holds a new year in its fading arms.

No month is more enjoyable than this. The summer heats are over, and the man who has lived wisely and temperately, is now invigorated with the cool tracing atmosphere of October. He relishes with keen appetite the luxuriant repasts which Nature has been maturing for his enjoyment all through the summer months. The fruits are now in their perfection, the spicy apple, the melting pear, the luscious grape, the juicy peach, spreading man's table with tempting variety. He has health and strength for the remaining labors of the season.

THE INDIAN CORN HARVEST

is mainly gathered in this month. A part of it stands with the stalks cut, its ears bursting the brown husks, and ripening in the sun. It is important that they should be well ripened, and dry, before they are cribbed. A part of it has been cut up at the roots and put in shocks to dry. No harvest field looks so rich as this, and its ingathering in the olden time was a scene of mirth and festivity. We regret the decline of the good old fashioned husking party, that so happily combined pleasure and profit.

"Where the huge heap lies center'd in the hall,
The lamp suspended from the cheerfull wall,
Brown, corn-fed nymphs, and strong hard handed beaus,
Alternate ranged, extend in circling rows
Assume their seats, the solid mass attack;
The dry husks rustle, the corn cobs crack;
The song, the laugh, alternate notes resound,
And the sweet cider trips in silence round."

This programme which we doubt not was faithful to the times of the author of Hasty Pudding, had become somewhat altered in the days of our youth. The corn heap was gathered in the open air upon the spot where the husks were to be stacked, generally in the field adjacent to the barn. In the full moon of October, all the neighbors and friends for miles around were mingled to the evening husking. The corn "fed nymphs" were not invited to the out-door party but presided with grace, and dignity over the festivities in the house, that were introduced by supper after the husking was over. Even with this arrangement, there was no difficulty in procuring attendants. The long heaps of corn rapidly disappeared, and a single favorable evening would nearly finish the whole husking of a farm.

But alas! the times are sadly changed, and there is as little poetry about the gathering of this harvest as in picking stones or ditching. Even Farmer's daughter's would faint at the rudeness of an invitation to an evening husking. Their delicate fingers would be blistered by contact with rough corn husks, and their sensibilities shocked at the idea of ladies extending the hospitalities of their mansion to the corn huskers The business has lost its charm in the eyes of the fair sex, and this we imagine has more to do with the reluctance of farmers' sons to remain upon the old homestead, than most people imagine. The plow boy hears the question asked "Who wants to marry a farmer with his rough hands and dirty shirt?" The question is echoed by his sisters, and he ponders it as he follows the plow. The furrows grow long and heavy, and the dulness of his team only equals the dullness of a farmers life, as he looks at it through the vista of single blessedness. Before he is through with his teens his trunk is packed and he is off for the city, where softer hands are in demand and where farmer's sons are metamorphosed into "nice young men," fit to marry the farmer's daughter's of this generation. Woman has a great work to do in the reform of agriculture. Farm life can never assume its true place in society, without her influence and advocacy.

THE APPLE HARVEST.

The cultivation of this fruit is rapidly extending, though the temperance reform makes progress and comparatively little cider is used as a beverage. The market is brisk in all the larger cities; and the demand for foreign markets is likely to increase with the cultivation of the fruit. It is some times gathered the last week in September, but much depends upon the weather. If frosts are severe, they should be picked immediately. If not let them hang.

In gathering them the greatest care should be exercised, and the cultivator should superintend the whole work in person. Half the value of this crop is often lost through carelessness. They are hurriedly shaken from the tree, badly bruised, thrown into barrels without assortment, and thus carried to market. No man who knows the value of good fruit will purchase such a lot at half price. They should be picked by hand, or by an instrument constructed for the purpose. To save labor and bruising, they should be assorted and packed under the tree, as fast as they are picked. There should be a little straw or leaves in the bottom of the barrel, and each apple should be handled as carefully as if it were an egg. The skin is a more perfect " self sealed can " for the preservation of the fruit than man can construct, and if this be kept unbroken in a suitable temperature there will be no decay. A bruise not only mars the skin and gives the atmosphere access to the flesh but it crushes the little cells under the skin, and the process of fermentation and decay, at once begins. The largest, fairest apples should be put in separate barrels and sold for an extra price. Another grade should be selected for cooking and for immediate use, and the remainder should go to the press.

MAKING CIDER.

The stiffest of teetotalers can not object to cider boiled down for the good old dish of apple butter, or to cider carried through the acetous fermentation for vinegar. Ten gallons of dirty stuff compounded of villainous drugs, are used to one gallon of vinegar made from pure cider. We have tried various substitutes, but have never found any thing so cheap and so good as the juice of the apple. Farmers, with apple orchards, have no apology for using any thing else for this purpose. The demand for vinegar is very large.

COMPOST HEAPS.

These should be attended to industriously. Those made in the summer months may now be forked over. Much of their value depends upon this overhauling and the fineness of the materials.

SAVE THE LEAVES.

The frosts have begun to do their work upon the foliage, and long wind-rows of leaves are piled under the shade trees by the wall. Let all these be carefully saved. They are excellent for hot beds in the spring, mixed with stable manure ; they are a good mulch for fruit trees, during the winter. Leaves also may be profitably gathered in the forest in large heaps to be brought home in winter upon the sled. They are good bedding for the cattle, and for the pigs.

SEA WEED.

The shore farmer will watch diligently for the fall storms and with every tide will gather the floating wreck of the sea. Much of it is swept back into the sea again, without this constant care. It is a very valuable addition to the fertilizers of the soil, and no cultivator who has the opportunity to gather these weeds should neglect to do so.

TRANSPLANT TREES.

Pears and apples, we think, do better when put out in the fall than in the spring. This month is the time to plant that long deferred orchard. Make thorough work with the holes or borders where you set the trees. Dig holes four or five feet in diameter, and at least two deep. Fill in with bones and compost so that the tree shall have a stock of food for years to come. Now is a good time to plant deciduous ornamental trees by the roadside. They greatly improve the appearance of a farm house, and add to the market value of a farm. [See articles on those subjects in this number.]

PRUINING TREES AND VINES

may be attended to the latter part of the month. Young trees may be trained to almost any shape by timely trimming. It is just as easy to form broad symmetrical heads, that will give ample room for the fruit, as to have narrow ill shaped ones, with interlacing branches. In the fall the farmer has leisure to attend to these small things and to examine the condition of every tree.

MANURE YOUR FRUIT TREES.

Do this especially, if they are not vigorous and healthy. Stunted pear trees are often started by a generous mulch of stable manure in the fall. It keeps the roots warm during the winter, and a large amount of plant food leaches down to the roots. We have found nothing better than this for dwarf pear trees. They want an abundance of rich food in the fall. These trees fail more frequently from neglect than from any other cause. The quince roots are short and the food must be brought to them if you would see them vigorous and fruitful.—Ed.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

OCTOBER, 1856.

[We give from month to month, besides our leading article, "Work for the Month," a Calendar of some of the more important operations in the field, garden, &c. These are adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 42°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north, earlier south. An early season, or a late one advances or retards operations, so that we shall need to revise and adapt these tables to each year.

The letters f. m. l. refer to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month.

Doubling the letters thus: ff., mm., or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

FARM.

Barn-yards—Keep a good supply of muck spread over them. If the manure is washed by the rains, see that the liquid is absorbed by straw, weeds, loam and muck, instead of running away by the road side. It is well to conduct it into a tank or cistern.

Barns—Repair if needful, making them proof against the cold winds and drifting snows of next winter.

Beets—Harvest those for stock before frosts, as they will not keep well after freezing.

Beeves—Fatten early as it will require less food now than in cold weather.

Buildings—Keep in good repair and well covered with white-wash or paint. The latter part of this month is a better time for painting than during the warm weather of spring.

Cellars—Keep clean and sweet, with plenty of ventilation during dry weather. Admit cool air freely, only keeping from freezing.

Compost—Continue to collect leaves, peat, sea-weed, potato tops, fish, weeds &c., ff. mm. ll.

Corn—Cut up and shock early, or before heavy frosts have injured the stalks for fodder. Gather the soundest for seed if not already done. See directions for last month and an article elsewhere in this number. Husk dry, house the " butts " as soon as may be, before the severe storms of autumn have deprived them of their sweetness. Harvesting his crop is one of the chief operations of October. See that the cribs are well ventilated, rats and mice excluded.

Cows—Supply those giving milk with extra feed as the grass fails. Soiling crops, turnip tops, pumpkins, tomatoes &c., should be fed to them now.

Draining wet soils—Continue f. m. l., or until they are ALL reclaimed, and rendered *profitable* for culture.

Economy of the Farm—Fatten cattle early, it will take less food. Have stock of all kinds in good flesh before cold weather ; they will winter better at less cost and be more valuable in the spring. Feed out turnip and cabbage leaves rather than allow them to molder in heaps. Thresh grain and remove it from the reach of rats and mice. Make manures and compost upon the farm instead of paying a large amount for an imported article. Repair buildings, tools, wagons, harnesses &c., as needed, remembering that a " stitch in time saves nine."

Fences—Keep an eye to, both around your corn fields and winter grain.

Fruit—See Orchard.

Grain Stacks—Cart in and thresh if not already done ; save all the straw for feeding and bedding next winter.

Hogs—See swine.

Manures—Continue *manufacturing* both in the barn-yard and hog pen, ff. mm. ll.

Muck—Get out a good supply for fall and winter use leaving large heaps near the hog-pens and stables, each load of which if properly used will give the same amount of good manure in the spring.

Night Soil—Manufacture No. 1 Poudrette, by mixing muck, or the bottoms of charcoal pits with the contents of the privy.

Potatoes—Dig in dry weather and store them in the cellar with as little exposure to the sun as possible.

Pumpkins for late keeping—Expose to air and wind in a dry place, but not so late as to freeze them.

Swine—Fatten early with *cooked* food, using corn, pumpkins, tomatoes, apples, &c. Hogs will make the most and the best manure while fattening. Keep their yards and pens well supplied with muck, straw, turf, loam, leaves, &c. It has been well remarked that hogs should pay for their trouble and much of their food while fattening by the manure they make during the time.

Tools—Put away those not in use in their appropriate places under cover, repairing them if needed, as opportunity offers.

Turnips—will increase in size during the whole of this month. They need not be harvested in this latitude before November. Keep free from weeds and the ground well stirred.

Weeds—Continue to gather late ones and carry to the hog pen and manure heaps. Let no seeds fall upon the fields.

Wheat and Rye—Keep cattle and especially sheep from feeding it down, thus exposing the roots to the action of sun and frost.

ORCHARD AND NURSERY.

Apples—Gather winter varieties with care and carry them to the fruit room. Pick them during dry weather and if they are put in barrels, allow the heads to remain off for a week or until the sweating process is completed. See article elsewhere on setting out Trees.

Blackberries—Plant as soon as the frost has deprived them of their foliage.

Buddings performed last month—Loosen bandages ff.

Cherry Trees—Plant out standards during the latter part of the month, or at any time after heavy frosts.

Economy of land.—Plant out an orchard of apple, pear or cherry trees in rows say 25 or 30 feet apart, and set out Raspberries or Blackberries between them, bringing the berries in a line with the trees so that the whole ground can be worked for a few years, with the plow or cultivator. Both of these smaller fruits do well in a partial shade, which the fruit trees will soon make. The ground must be manured, commensurate with the crops expected from it.

Evergreens—May be transplanted early in this month.

Fruit Trees of all kinds may be set out this month though the Peach, Nectarine and Apricot, are more certain to live when transplanted in early spring.

Ground for Orchard or Nursery—Prepare by manuring, and subsoiling or trenching.

Orchards—Renovate the neglected and unthrifty by manuring and plowing or spading around the trees and spreading a few shovelfuls of lime around each. Pruning may also be done at any time, but in very cold latitudes it is better to defer it till February. This is the month of all others to set out new orchards of apple, pear, cherry and quince trees. A mixture of two thirds muck and one third yard manure is a good compost to use about the roots.

Pears—Gather late varieties and lay away in the fruit room. Set out trees early in the month.

Planting Ornamental and Fruit Trees—Commence as soon as they have shed their foliage; early fall planting is much better than late.

Pruning may be done at any time during the month

Raspberries—Set out plants m. to l. or as soon as the leaves are off.

Seeds of Apples, Pears, Quinces, Cherries, Plums, Peaches, Magnolia, Hawthorn, Chionanthus &c.—Plant f. to m. or put in boxes of earth or sand.

Transplanting both of trees and shrubs—Attend to during the month, m. to l. in this latitude.

Weeds—Permit none to encumber the ground even at this season, nor allow them to sow seed for a future crop.

KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDEN.

Asparagus—Cover old beds with coarse manure m. to l. Plant out new beds trenching the ground and manuring heavily.

Beets—Harvest before heavy frosts and keep in a cool cellar where they will not freeze.

Blackberries—Make plantations of New-Rochelle at any time after frosts have killed the foliage.

Cabbage—Prick out in cold frames m. to l.

Cardoons—Earth up f. m. l. in dry weather.

Carrots—Dig m. to l. and store in cellar.

Cauliflower.—Set in frames for winter.

Celery—Earth up during dry weather and when there is not so much as dew on.

Currants—Prune and set out m. to l. Cuttings may be made. See article on another page.

Earthing up—Attend to during this month, only in dry weather. Tie the branches of plants requiring blanching with bass matting and draw the earth carefully around them taking care not to bruise or cover the heart of the plants.

Economy of the Garden—Do not allow any vegetable to decay on the ground. Cucumbers, tomatoes, pumpkins, squashes, &c., should all be gathered and boiled with the " mess " for hogs. Collect the cabbage, turnip and beet leaves with the small roots for cattle; potato-tops, vines and weeds should be given to swine for manure.

Endive—Blanch, tying up branches and earthing up each week.

Frames—Have in readiness for lettuce, cabbage, cauliflowers, &c., sown last month; they will be wanted for these plants m. to l.

Gooseberries—Set out m. to l.; make cuttings of and plant at the same time, pruning if necessary.

Grape Vines—Remove layers which are well established; take down tender vines and cover with earth.

Herbs—Clean out, divide, manure and reset hardy ones throwing a little earth or coarse manure over them; take up tender varieties and put in frames or houses.

Hoes should not be laid aside before November. Many weeds come up during the latter part of the season and quickly go to seed if not disturbed by the hoe during this month.

Lettuce—Prick out in frames m. to l.

Mushroom beds—Collect spawn and make ff.; attend to former beds, watering or covering as is necessary.

Nasturtiums—Gather ff.

Onions—Plant for seed covering with litter.

Parsnips—Take up what are required during the winter, covering with sand or earth in the cellar; the remainder will keep better in the ground.

Potatoes—Dig ff. to m.

Raspberries—Make plantations ff. trenching or subsoiling the ground, using muck compost freely. Bend down the canes and cover with earth or litter before the ground freezes.

Roots—Take up tender varieties first, in dry weather.

Rhubarb—Plant out f. to m. It is better to plant in the fall as it starts very early in the spring. Sow seed f. to m.

Salsify—Dig and cover with earth or sand for fall and winter use, leaving a portion in the ground for spring.

Seeds gather and label with care putting them out of the reach of mice.

Squashes and pumpkins—Place in an airy situation out of the reach of storms. Do not allow them to freeze before being carried to a cool dry cellar.

Strawberry Beds made last month—Keep free from weeds; watering in dry weather. Beds may still be made ff. mulching with coarse manure or straw to protect them during the winter.

Turnips—Hoe and thin out late plantings. The season must be the guide for harvesting; for as they grow very late in the season and will bear pretty heavy frosts, it is only necessary to harvest them before the ground freezes.

Weeds—Continue to destroy.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

Anemones and Ranunculuses—Plant m. to l.

Annuals—Remove those done blooming. Sow a few hardy ff. in frames for early spring.

Bedded plants, such as Geraniums, Fuchsias, Heliotropes, Abutilons, &c., should be lifted early and potted or packed in boxes and transferred to the Greenhouse or a cool dry cellar.

Borders—Keep free from weeds, raking off leaves, &c.

Bulbs—Plant borders and beds ff. See last month's directions, page 281.

Carnations and Picotees—Pot layers f. to m.; cover plants remaining out with coarse manure or litter ll.

Chrysanthemums—Tie to stakes and give liquid manure, soap-suds, &c., ff., complete making cuttings of.

Crocus and Crown Imperials—Plant f. m. l. see article in September number.

Cuttings—Make and plant f. to m.

Dahlias—Take up before severe frosts, labelling and putting away in cool dry cellar.

Early blooming plants and shrubs should be set out this month; they will bloom much more freely than if deferred till spring.

Evergreens—Plant ff. to m.; keep the roots from becoming dry while out of the ground which should be as short a time as possible.

Gladiolas—Take up m. to l. and store with dahlias.

Grass—Mow ff. and rake off leaves.

Gravel Walks—Weed and rake f. to m.

Hoe until the frosts have destroyed all the weeds.

Hyacinths—Plant f. m. l. as directed last month.

Iris, Jonquil and Narcissus—Plant during the month.

Lilies—Plant ff. to m. See September number.

Pansies raised from seed—Set out in a frame or cover with leaves.

Peonies—Transplant m. to l. and they will bloom next season.

Perennials of all kinds may be transplanted during the month.

Pyrus Japonica—Plant m. to l.

Seeds—Gather and label with care.

Shrubs—Plant m. to l.

Snowdrop—Plant ff. if not done last month.

Stocks and Wall Flowers—Take up and pot, keeping shaded.

Transplanting of all hardy flowering shrubs, Evergreen and deciduous shade trees, perennials, &c., may be done at any time during the month.

Tulips—Plant f. m. l. see article page 282 September number.

Verbenas and Petunias—Separate and pot layers for winter and spring blooming.

GREEN AND HOT HOUSES.

Air freely, especially graperies. Tender plants which bear but little exposure should be aired only during mild weather, closing early at night.

Achimines and Gloxinias done blooming—Place on a dry shelf until spring.

Azalias—Put in winter quarters, watering sparingly.

Bark Beds—Renew or renovate ff.

Camellias—Bud and arrange in winter situations. Water and syringe freely.

Chrysanthemums for late blooming—Take inside and water with liquid manure.

Deutzias, Spireas, &c., may be potted now for blooming in the Greenhouse.

Figs—Take to vinery or cold grapery, and water sparingly after the fruit is gathered.

Fires—Keep up a moderate heat in the hot houses.

Fuchsias done blooming—Cut in and place away under the stage watering sparingly.

Glass, Flues, &c.—Repair ff. if not already done.

Grapes may be kept fresh on the vines for a long time by airing freely in good weather. Vines in Greenhouses should have their late wood shortened in, and decayed leaves picked off; those in cold houses air freely as soon as the fruit is matured, to ripen off the wood.

Houses—Keep clean with sashes, pullies, &c., in good order, and arrangements perfected for artificial heat.

Housing Plants—Complete before the frost has marred the beauty of fine specimens.

Hyacinths—Pot for early bloom.

Leaves—Pick of decayed ones and cleanse others when taken into the house.

Pansias and Daisies for winter bloom should be potted now.

Books on Agriculture, Horticulture, &c. We are continually applied to for these, and are always ready to furnish to our subscribers any book they may desire, sending it to them *post paid* on receiving the retail price. This is, however, not our legitimate business and we only do it as a matter of accommodation. The same may be said of implements, manures, &c., &c. We have not the slightest connection with, or interest in any business except publishing this paper. Those desiring books, &c., will generally find them announced in our advertising columns. Messrs. C. M. Saxton, & Co., have in this number a very convenient table of books with the price given and the method of obtaining them postage free. This is a reliable house, and we can commend their advertisement to all wanting books.—Ed.

WHEN, AND HOW TO SET OUT TREES.

1. We advise to set out most kinds of fruit trees in the Fall, as soon as may be after the leaves have dropped from them. Peach, apricot, and nectarine trees are transplanted more safely in the Spring, as early as the ground will admit being worked.

2. Deciduous shade trees and shrubs, that is, those which shed their leaves in Autumn, should be set as soon as the leaves fall.

The above two rules do not apply to very cold latitudes, where the ground remains deeply frozen for four or five months in the year. In such localities, early Spring transplanting is thought to be the safest.

3. Evergreen trees and shrubs are best transplanted in May, June, August, or September at the North—earlier at the South.

4. In taking up trees, *great care* should be used to save unbroken as many as possible of the very small roots and fibres, even those so minute as to be scarcely seen without a magnifying glass. Upon the number of these, which are really the *feeders* of the tree, will depend its future growth and vigor. Never pull up a tree rudely, or cut off its roots with a spade, except, perhaps, some of its longer large roots. Leave the tap-root moderately long. Before lifting a tree, loosen the soil around it well, and then take it up carefully. Proper care in this particular will double the chance of its surviving, and render it ten-fold more valuable afterwards.

5. While out of the ground, the roots should on no account be exposed to the sun or dry winds. If not set out immediately, let them be covered and kept damp—*not wet.* Too much wet, warm packing, is almost as dangerous as dryness.

6. Dig WIDE, DEEP HOLES, to be filled with GOOD SURFACE SOIL. Here lies one of the great secrets of successful fruit-growing. No matter how poor the original soil, it is always comparatively easy to dig out a large hole, say two to two and one-half feet deep, and five to eight feet in diameter, and fill it in with good soil for the future bed of the tree. The air from which they derive much nourishment is just as good over a barren sandy field as over a fertile one, and we can always get good soil enough for the tree to grow in, even if it has to be carted a mile.

A tree set out in the best manner is capital well invested. If a load of good soil to fill in around the roots of each tree costs even one dollar per tree, *that dollar is well invested*—the tree will in a short time pay back a large interest annually. The tree poorly set in poor soil may repay the first cost and annual care. If supplied with good soil, it will require no more after care than in the other case, while it will give two, three, four, five, perhaps ten times as much fruit. We can not urge this point too strongly.

7. *The Soil.*—If the ground designed for fruit or shade trees has a good surface soil, dig the holes as follows: Throw out a few inches of the best soil upon the surface, leaving it near by the holes. All below this should be spread at a distance. Then fill in the bottom with the soil near by, and upon this set the trees. Complete the filling with the best top soil gathered from some distance around each hole. Unless the ground is already quite rich, it is well to mix with the filling a good supply of rotten manure, muck, or decayed leaves, &c. We know of nothing better to put in the soil around the roots of all fruit trees than ground bones. They need not be finely ground. The finest portions will furnish immediate pabulum or food to the roots, while the coarser portions will decay gradually, and yield an annual supply of nutriment through a long series of years. In the absence of a bone mill, bones coarsely broken with a hammer will serve an excellent purpose. But even with bones, it is well to add a little rotten manure for the immediate wants of the roots. Remember that after a tree has been set out, and its roots have commenced to grow, you can not readily replace a poor soil with a better one, nor can you mix with it a supply of fertilizers. The after improving will necessarily be by means of liquid manures. *Therefore prepare a permanently rich soil at first.*

8. *Setting out the Trees.*—Here, also, a little, yes, a good deal of care, will pay. Having taken up the trees as directed above, fill up the several holes, so that when they have settled, each tree will stand about as deep as when it grew originally in the nursery. Then set in the trees, leaving the roots free, and extended in their natural position. Do not shovel in the soil upon them in masses, but sprinkle it in among and around the roots, (jarring the tree with the hand occasionally,) and press it down lightly. This done, fill up the rest of the hole with good soil, as directed above.

The ground should be left a little elevated around the trees, to allow for settling. It is well to add even more than this to support the tree during the winter, and dig away the surplus in the Spring.

If the ground is dry at the time of setting, or if dry weather succeeds, an occasional watering should be given, just enough to keep the ground damp, but not enough to bake it, or make it wet and cold. The object should be to get the fibres started before all growth is cut off by frost. If much water remains about the roots during Winter, there will be more expansion and contraction by frost, and the tender roots will be more torn and broken thereby. We would recommend thorough under-draining for all ground on which fruit trees are to grow, but only those who are thoroughly convinced of the utility of draining generally, would heed our suggestions in this respect, while, should we urge this point, many would be deterred from setting out trees at all, on account of the labor required. While draining, like the other operations we have laid down, would pay well, it is not indispensable. Besides, the ground may be drained subsequently by running drains between the rows of trees.

Puddling Trees.—This is a method of treating the roots after taking them up, highly recommended by some. It is done thus: A mixture of say two-thirds loamy soil, and one-third cow dung, is put into a half hogshead, or in a hole in the ground, and water enough added to make a *puddle* somewhat thick, but too thin to be taken up on a shovel. Into this the roots are dipped. It furnishes manure directly to the fibres, and is to them what soaking seed in liquid manure, or rolling it in plaster, &c., is to the grain crop. For trees which are carried far, or are long out of the ground, this treatment is highly beneficial. For fresh roots in a good soil, it is objectionable, since it mats the small fibres together too much. This objection is not so valid when the puddle is made quite thin.—Ed.

RURAL CEMETERIES.

The founding of rural cemeteries in every part of our land is one of the very pleasing signs of the times. It indicates an advancing civilization and refinement. It shows that humanity is not dying out from among us; that there is still a profound love of Nature, and that, absorbed as we may be in the pursuit of wealth, honor and pleasure, we do not altogether forget our mortality.

Some very good people, however, still cling to the old-fashioned burying-ground, partly through the force of old attachments and associations, and partly from a dislike of all modern innovation and change. It may be well, therefore, for us to keep this subject before the people, and to present such thoughts upon it as may from time to time occur to us.

The old style grave-yard answered very well in the infancy of our settlements. Roads were then new and rough, and it was inconvenient to carry the dead any distance from the church or the centre of population. The first inhabitants, moreover, were busily occupied in felling the forests, clearing up the lands, and preparing them for the uses of agriculture. They had neither time nor money to build fine houses, to lay out ample grounds, and to adorn them with trees and walks, and fountains and flowers. All they could do was to provide for the present necessities and comforts of life. They built log houses or plain frame ones: if they indulged in the luxury of a "front yard," it was planted with a few locusts or poplars and lilacs, which took care of themselves. This was the extent of their landscape gardening. Their burying-grounds corresponded with their other improvements. They were strictly burying-grounds, and nothing else—small, square fields behind the meeting-house, or on some neighboring hill open to the winds, and to the cattle, too—where there was just room to bury the people, provided the space was duly economized. The bodies were interred close together, in long melancholy rows, like so many bricks. This was the custom everywhere, and it was all that the people had time to do. But now the times have changed. Thanks to our industrious forefathers, the forests are now cleared away, the fields are ready for the plow, roads and bridges and school-houses have been built, and our general style of living has become comfortable, and often elegant. We now erect splendid churches, our private dwellings are neat and tasteful, and sometimes stately and grand. We have gardens and lawns planted with rare trees, shrubs and vines, to make our homes attractive. Shall we then make no improvement in our burial-places? Duty to the dead and the living requires us to do so. Neglect of this implies unpardonable thoughtlessness and absorption in selfish pursuits, a disregard for the higher impulses of humanity, and even for the interests of religion. It is commonly conceded that the abode of the living, with its appendages, is an exponent of the taste and character of its occupants. As houses improve and their comforts and elegances multiply, so, as a general rule, does society improve. May we not with equal propriety resort to the houses of the dead for an index of the real state of society?

Rural cemeteries are demanded on the score of health. A church-yard, hemmed in as it often is by a dense population, cannot be as suitable a place for interments as the hill-sides and plains of the open country. Much worse is burial in crowded charnels beneath the floors of a church.

Cemeteries as now planned are generally safe from any future encroachment. It is a very painful circumstance whenever it becomes necessary, or is thought to be so, for a burial-place to be disturbed by the laying out of streets through its hallowed grounds. Cemeteries, therefore, should be established remote from the centre of business, and in places where there is no human probability of their being ever desecrated in this manner. Our better feelings demand a place removed from the clamor of rising Babels, quite away from the rumbling of wheels and the tread of noisy multitudes; a place where we can wander and be alone with nature and nature's God; where the fading leaves may remind us of our mortality, and the unchanging evergreen may also symbolize our immortality.

The desire for a burial-place amid rural scenes is not the sickly sentimentality of feeble minds. Men of the strongest intellect and profoundest learning have shown the same predilection. Not to mention others, we now allude to the illustrious name of Webster. During his later years, he expressed a strong desire to be buried on the hill-side of his Marshfield estate, overlooking the wide-bosomed sea. On one of his last visits to the spot where now lie his remains, he made this touching remark: "This will be my home; and here three monuments will soon be erected; one for the mother of my children, one each for Julia and Edward, and there will be plenty of room in front for the little ones that must soon follow them."

And this suggests the thought that rural cemeteries have a social and family aspect. Good men of old did not forget the ties of kindred even in death. The patriarch Jacob, when about to die in a foreign land, commanded his descendants, saying, "Bury me not in Egypt, but I will lie with my fathers." And the dying Joseph gave orders that his bones should be carried from the land of the Pharaohs to the home of his ancestors, and the promised abode of his descendants in Canaan. It is one of the bitterest thoughts to a traveller dying in foreign countries, that he must be buried among strangers. And though it cannot extract the sting from death, nor affect the condition of our disembodied spirits, it is yet most pleasing and comforting to think of resting at last by the side of our endeared kindred. It seems to give us a sort of companionship even in death, and suggests the idea and the hope of a reunion in heaven.

In selecting a spot for a cemetery, care should be taken to have it as centrally situated as possible for the whole population. It should be easily approached in all weathers, and at all seasons of the year. The soil should be dry naturally, or made so by under-draining. Several main carriage roads should be laid out through the grounds, and from these, footpaths should lead to every burial lot. Ample space should be left between the lots for the planting of trees. The common practice of crowding trees, large and small, into the lots and among the graves, is very objectionable, for reasons which will be obvious on a little reflection.

The kind of trees most suitable for cemeteries does not seem to be universally agreed upon. Some persons would plant nothing but weeping willows: others, again, have an equal partiality for evergreens. But why not plant both? The willow may fitly represent human sorrow, and the evergreen human faith and hope. There are also other pendulous trees, such as the European weeping ash, linden, birch, beech, elm, &c., which are as significant and more hardy than the common weeping willow. There is a new variety of willow, called the new American weeping willow, somewhat dwarfish in its growth, which is perfectly hardy and very beautiful. Its small size recommends it for use in or near burial lots. Evergreen trees, we think, should predominate somewhat in a rural cemetery. Those of large growth, as the pines and spruces, should be planted on the margin of the grounds, or in large open spaces, while the smaller trees, or those which can easily be kept so, should be set within or near the lots. Of these last we may mention the juniper, yew, arbor vitæ, hemlock, mahonia, holly, &c.

The practice of surrounding burial lots with fences, whether of wood or iron, is much to be reprehended. Wood soon rots, and iron rusts and breaks in a few years, unless very carefully painted and watched over. And aside from this, the appearance of such stiff enclosures, with their pickets and padlocks and paint, is faulty both on the score of taste and of humanity. They are out of keeping with the open and free aspect of nature. They have an exclusive, suspicious look. Why not enclose one's ground with a low hedge, or simply indicate its boundaries by inconspicuous posts of granite or marble? The whole cemetery would then present the appearance of a beautiful piece of landscape gardening, of a select portion of the earth's surface, protected from all intrusion by a firm outer wall, and embellished within by the hand of art, and made the quiet resting place of those who, in death at least, have a common brotherhood.—[Ed.

WHY CLAY BENEFITS SANDY SOILS.

In a former article on the "Profitableness of Capital Invested in Improving Poor Land," we gave, in illustration, some results obtained by adding 100 and 150 loads of clay to a comparatively barren, sandy field. In addition to the isolated example given, besides which a large number of similar cases might be brought forward, we propose now to state some of the principles involved in cultivation, which would lead us to expect just such profitable results from changing the physical character of sandy soils by the addition of clay.

It is now generally admitted by intelligent cultivators, of the soil, as well as by scientific investigators, that while all kinds of growing plants derive a small portion of their sustenance from the soil through their roots, their principal food—that is, the particles which go to increase their bulk—comes from the air through the medium of the leaves. If we take a piece of rotten wood, rub it to a fine powder and throw it into the air it immediately becomes invisible. A mass of vegetable, either burned or rotted, disappear into the atmosphere, and from their altered chemical condition or from their minute division they are no longer perceptible to the vision. These fine particles are collected by the leaves again and enter into the composition of growing substances.

The food thus collected by leaves is carried by the circulating *sap* down to the different parts of the plants, and deposited where it is needed in the process of growth. The sap, on the contrary, is gathered from the soil through open mouths (spongioles) upon the extremities of the fine rootlets, and ascends through the inner wood, or central portions of the plant stalk; thence circulates through the leaves, gathering in its course the food collected by them, and it then descends through the outer wood, or external portions of the stalk, depositing the food where it is needed to increase the bulk of the plant.

The amount of food collected by the leaves depends upon the extent of leaf-surface, and upon the continual change of air, so that fresh supplies of food may be furnished as fast as one portion of the air is exhausted. On this account it is probable that plants grow faster during gentle winds, than when the air is calm and comparatively motionless. But it matters not how large may be the leaf-surface, nor how great may be the supply of food furnished by the air, the plant will not grow rapidly *if there is not an abundant supply of sap* to carry this food to the points where it is needed. Much of the sap that ascends is evaporated from the surface of the leaves, and in dry weather it often happens that nearly all the moisture collected by the roots is thus lost, and, as a consequence, the plant languishes, or is literally starved to death.

This view of the subject reaches an important practical lesson—viz: that careful attention should be given to furnishing an abundance of sap by a well-developed system of roots. These roots should go down into the soil far enough to be beyond the reach of the sun's drying effect. To accomplish this, the soil must be stirred deeply to admit the air. In most soils freely-circulating air is necessary to destroy or change poisonous substances. But of this we do not propose here to speak. We will now only refer to the

Mechanical Structure of the Soil, as relates to its fineness and coarseness.—The sap absorbing roots of all plants are exceedingly small—so small that they can not be seen by the unaided eye. When we pull up a stalk of corn, for instance, we only draw up the larger, stronger roots. There is left behind by any single stalk, millions of tender rootlets, which can only be found by long continued and careful washing of a portion of the soil, and the use of a magnifying glass.

The practical point we are aiming at is, that these sap-absorbing roots are so very small, that they can not grow in any situation where there is not a sufficiency of very fine, impalpable soil, to afford a medium for their growth. Small roots, large enough to be visible to the eye, cannot grow in a medium composed wholly of gravel stones. But fine sand grains are much larger compared with sap-absorbing rootlets, than are gravel stones the size of chestnuts compared with roots no larger than a cambric needle.

The adaptability of a soil to the growth of these fine rootlets, and, in a great measure, its fertility, depends upon the amount of impalpable material—that is, earthy substances so fine that when rubbed between the fingers there is no perception of roughness. We know that common clay is such a substance as this. It feels smooth, or salvy, so to speak when rubbed in the hand.

It is on this account that we often find clay one of the very best fertilizers that can be added to a sandy soil. The particles of sand making up such a soil are too coarse to furnish a medium of growth to the sap-absorbing rootlets. The addition of the fine clay particles supplies the want.

To test any soil in reference to this point, take a portion and put it into a vessel; add four or five times its bulk of water; stir well; let it stand two or three minutes; then pour off the water into a clean tin or glass vessel, and let it stand perfectly still for a few hours, or till it becomes quite clear. If there does not settle to the bottom of the water poured off a considerable portion of fine, impalpable earthly material, equal in weight to from one-twentieth to one-tenth of the original soil, we may safely conclude that it does not contain enough of fine soil to support the sap-absorbing rootlets of any plant. Manures added to such a soil may stimulate the growth of greater length of root, and lead them to a greater distance in search of moisture; but the most feasible means of improvement is, to bring about a change in the mechanical structure. Frequent stirring and exposure to the air and frost, which disintegrate the coarser particles and furnish more of the fine material, are beneficial; but we believe the most rapid and, in the end the most economical improvement of such soils, is to add to them a liberal supply of fine clay.

We venture the opinion, that on any sandy soil, or even on sandy loam, a few loads of fine clay thoroughly mingled with it will, in the course of a few years, produce more marked effects than half as many loads of the best organic manure. When clay is so added, it remains a permanent improvement, unless the soil is subjected to running water that will wash out the clay again.

The amount of clay that may be profitably added to any soil, will depend upon its present necessity or physical condition. On many soils ten loads of clay per acre, will show a marked effect, while on most very sandy fields, one hundred loads or more per acre will be found a most profitable outlay. We earnestly advise those who have light, coarse, or sandy fields, with clay accessible, to ponder this subject well, and to try a portion, at least, with a good admixture of clay.—Ed.

HOW TO SEND POULTRY TO MARKET.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

My daily observation in the poultry market of this city, of the loss suffered by poultry raisers for want of a little care, or else want of proper knowledge, prompts me to offer a word, with the hope that some abler pen will continue the subject. It is mortifying to me to see so much good poultry sold by farmers at half price, simply because not nicely dressed. Half-dressed, half-fattened fowls will not bring half-price. I will not attempt to describe the best method of fattening, but leaving that to others I will say, that only a little more fat put upon a fowl after it is in bare passable order will not unfrequently double the value.

Turkeys and geese should be killed with great care to keep them from bruising themselves. A very good plan is to tie their wings, and hang them on a pole by their legs, before cutting off the head. The same may be said of other fowls.

All kinds of poultry should be "dry picked" if to be carried far to market, as they keep better if dressed in this way. If scalded, the water should be just below the boiling point. In any case be very careful not to tear the skin or rub off the cuticle (or outer skin) from the legs. After being nicely picked, wash in clean warm soap-suds, and then "plump" them—as the Jersey men call it—that is hold them in boiling water about five seconds.

Draw back the skin and cut off the neck bone near the body, and then draw the skin over again and tie it tightly with a string. This keeps the blood from running over and disfiguring the bodies.

When all the animal heat is entirely gone pack them in boxes of about 200 lbs., using clean rye straw as this is less heating than other kinds. A little attention to these hints will materially increase the price and give greater satisfaction to the producer, seller, and consumer.

Isaac Emens, 226 Front St.
New-York, September 8, 1856.

[The above hints are timely and to the point. We have long since ceased to buy any dressed poultry in this city, and since our professional duties have called us to examine particularly the various city markets from week to week, we have declined eating poultry of any kind purchased from them ready dressed, no matter how nicely it may be sewed up. Any one who should see the hundreds of boxes of thin, banged, bloody, skin-broken things, called chickens, weekly sent here would come to the same conclusion. There is a striking difference in this respect between the New-York markets, and those of Philadelphia, New-Orleans, and some other cities. In Philadelphia the long rows of plump, clean, dry fowls exhibited upon clean tables tempt the epicure to buy. Here poultry can only be enjoyed by those who have never visited the Washington or Fulton market stands.—Ed.

A TRIAL OF MILLET.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

I promised you an account of two and-a-half acres of millet which I sowed last spring, but it is hardly worth reporting as it did not turn out very well. The seed came up finely but the "bitter weeds" kept it back so that it turned out only about one ton to the acre. Had it all been like about one quarter of an acre, where there were no bitter weeds it would doubtless have yielded three tons to the acre.

Cyrill Read Esq., one of our largest and best farmers, cut five tons of millet from 1½ acres. The land was an old meadow that had not been taken up in a number of years. It was plowed last fall, and in the spring cross-plowed and six cords of stable manure turned in, then planted with corn. The corn being distroyed by the worms it was sowed to millet—half a bushel of seed to the acre. Mr. Read thinks it would have been better to have sowed more seed. I send you by express a sample of Mr. Reads millet, also two stalks of the "sugar millet," of which I received about a tea-spoonfull of seed from the Patent Office. It was sown on a very rich piece of ground and came up finely. I think it more valuable than the other variety because it heads larger and the leaves are more numerous and broader. You will do me an especial favor if you can tell me where I can procure the "Sugar Millet" seed, as I would like to experiment further with it. Millet seems to be very easily raised and stands the drouth better than any other fodder.

I have told my millet story Mr. Editor. Will some one else follow suit? I should be pleased to see experience of others published.

South Seekonk, Mass. E. A.
August 19, 1856.

[The specimen and this description came to hand just too late for our last issue. We have placed the sample where it can be seen by any one calling. We measured the stalks and found them 6½ feet in length. The heads are not quite so heavy as some we have examined, but this could hardly be expected where there is such a prodigious growth of stalk. Can any one inform Mr. Aborn, about the Sugar Millet seed?—Ed.]

WRITING FOR AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS.

Every farmer at all accustomed to use the pen should occasionally contribute to some paper. Probably not one in a hundred, who might do this acceptably, ever makes the attempt. Farmers as a class have few aspirations for literary fame, and are much more ready to read the teachings of others, than to impart their own experience. Some so overtax their muscles with labor, that they have no heart for writing in the intervals of work. Some distrust their own ability to use good English. Some could write just as well as not, but have never thought they had any experience worth recording. Whatever the cause may be, few of them write.

We doubt not that some of them have good reasons, but many have not; and we wish to enlist their contributions, both for their own sakes, and for that of our readers, as well as ourselves.

We never yet visited a farm or even a garden, without getting some new ideas that were of service to us in our own operations. We are cultivators of the soil, and every new item from the note-books of our fellow-laborers is a direct help to us. Again; such articles coming directly from those who hold the plow, show their wants, and enable us to draw from our own experience and other sources such teachings as shall be most serviceable to them. These communications from our readers are short visits, which we can immediately reciprocate in short articles. Could we visit the fields of our neighbors and talk with them across the fence, we could doubtless offer suggestions that would be of more value to them than any thing we can write. Their communications will enable us to give the best substitute for these familiar field lectures. As it now is, we often have to draw the bow at a venture, sure only that the topics we treat of will meet somebody's wants, for they have first met our own.

But these communications would be profitable to all our readers. Cultivators form a common brotherhood, and the "esprit du corps" ought to be as strong among us as in any other calling. Every leaf from your note-book will help every cultivator at some stage of his operations. What would you have given for your present experience and knowledge of the principles of husbandry ten years ago? How many foolish undertakings would it have prevented, and how many wise ones would it have prompted you to? It is doubtless worth thousands of dollars to you. Now, for the benefit of the inexperienced, who always form a portion of our readers, draw from the store-house of your own dear-bought experience, and tell us what may be done economically upon the farm, and what quicksands and quagmires we ought to avoid. Write for the benefit of your neighbors.

Write for your own instruction. A man forgets a great deal that he learns, unless he is in the habit of recording his knowledge. Unless you keep a record, you cannot now recall all the details of an experiment that you made two years since. Almost any satisfactory trial of a crop or a fertilizer, of an animal, or of an article of fodder, involves a multitude of particulars that confuse the memory. They should be recorded at the time, and the results. Then a man can give a reason for the faith that is in him. In this way one forms intelligent opinions in regard to the details of farming. He grows in knowledge and in self-reliance, and conducts all his operations upon the farm with much higher satisfaction. The cultivation of the earth is redeemed from a business of drudgery and blind chance to one of intelligence and taste. Will you keep the records, and hand us over the notes?—[Ed.

VALUE OF ROOT TOPS—VALUABLE FOR FEEDING.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

Allow me just to hint to your root-raising readers, that the *tops* both of carrots and bagas, are quite valuable if fed out immediately—before they have time to wilt. Cattle will eat them with great eagerness particularly if there is left with the top just the crown of the root as we are apt to.

There is evidently a great amount of food in the tops of an acre of good rank bagas, and if we can manage to make a profitable use of them it will all go to help in making up those small savings with which a farmer must rest content in his vacation. My own course has been to take a team into the field and with a manure fork collect and throw on the waggon the tops, as fast as cut, and cart them to my cattle in another field.

Salisbury, Ct. Wm. J. Pettee.
September 24, 1856.

NATURAL PLANTS VS. CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

Mr. Thomas Cole, of Fairfield Co., Ohio, inquires whether the character of a soil, or its adaptability to the growth of particular crops may not be ascertained from a knowledge of the natural grasses and weeds that spring up spontaneously, with as much definiteness as the same question is now determined by chemical analysis. We answer yes, but in the present state of our knowledge, neither of these methods furnish us any very definite information. *Reliable* chemists do not yet undertake to say precisely what constituent or constituents are needed to adapt a particular soil to particular crops. *Reliable* chemists are still investigating the subject, hoping that in the future some definite relation between the inorganic or mineral constituents of the soil and plant may be discovered. During the coming winter we hope to find space and time to discuss the question of how far chemistry can aid the farmer. We hesitate not to say in advance, that three-fourths of what has been written on this subject is either unsettled theory, or downright humbug.

Some idea of the character of a soil may be gathered from the plants growing naturally upon it, but we have as yet no systematic investigations on this subject. This is one of the questions that should occupy the first attention of a National Bureau of Agriculture—*when we get one*. Our State Agricultural Societies should also give more attention to such questions.

In our view, however, the physical or mechanical condition of a soil, and its climatic location has more to do with the fertility, than the chemical composition, though the latter is not an unimportant consideration. See an article elsewhere, on applying clay to sandy soils, and also one on the same subject in the September number. [Ed.

"IT IS SAID."

Drying Eggs.—"It is said" that Messrs. Thurgar of Albion Mills, Norwich, (Eng.,) have devised a process for drying eggs, so that they will keep good for any length of time. The method reported is as follows: The yolk and white, &c., of the egg are exposed to slow heat, and the moisture is thus driven off. The whole is then reduced to powder and packed up in tins. The material is not necessarily kept air-tight, but may be freely exposed to the air. The powder is used in the ordinary way as eggs are, being mixed with a little water, and is thus an excellent substitute for milk on voyages, besides capable of being used for all cooking purposes in the same way as the fresh egg. The powder will keep any length of time without fear of deterioration.

Choked Cattle.—"It is said" that neat cattle choked by a turnip, potato, &c., may be invariably relieved by pouring into the throat of the animal, from a junk bottle, a pint or so of lamp or sweet oil, at the same time rubbing the throat briskly with the hand. We say that this will often give relief, but not "invariably." It may be well to try this as a first remedy.—[Ed.

Scratches in Horses.—"It is said" that this often troublesome disease, unless very bad, may be cured by washing thoroughly with soap-suds, and then rubbing with lard fried out of salt meat. Keep clean, and wash and grease every other day until a cure is effected. Leaving mud to dry upon the legs of a horse is one great cause of this disease, and many horses are injured by want of care and cleanliness when driven in muddy weather.

Putting Lime into Hay.—"It is said" that lime slacked to powder and sprinkled upon clover partially dried, when it is put into the barn, will act as an absorbent, prevent heat and fermentation, and that the clover will come out in good condition in winter, and cattle eat it readily and thrive well upon it. We would not do it. If cattle are sick and need a little lime water, give it to them, but do not compel them to eat caustic lime daily, or let the hay alone and starve. If lime *must* be used in hay, then dissolve it and use clear lime water only—but salt is far better.—[Ed.

TIM BUNKER GOING TO THE FAIR.

"Dew tell, Squire Bunker, if you're gwine to exhibit at the County Fair this Fall," said Seth Twigs as he lighted his third pipe and took his hat. "I never was tu one of them Fairs in my life; but I have heern tell of the big squashes and cabbage, and I thought you would be after sending up some your garden sass, it is so mighty nice." Seth had kept an eye on the subsoil plow after he found it had no mold-board, and occasionally looked into the Deacon's garden, as well as into Squire Bunker's.

"Shouldn't wonder if I did," replied Tim Bunker. "You see, I went up last year for the first time, not thinking it was worth while to take up anything to show. But I found when I got there that Hookertown was making as good a show as any other town in the county, and there were some things there that took premiums that I could have beaten, even before my garden had the subsoil plow in it. Wife planted a squash at the edge of the carrot bed, and the vine has a half dozen whoppers on it. The big one there will weigh a hundred and fifty pounds, and she declares "that squash must be seen." Then John has a bed of onions, some of them measuring six inches across; and some California potatoes weighing two pounds a-piece. Our Sally is tip-top on bread-making, and says she is bound to take a premium, for the ministers are to be the judges, and will give a righteous award. The bees have done well this year, and whiter honey never was seen than we have in our boxes. The carrots on the subsoiled land of course must go up. I measured one the other day twenty and one-half inches long, and I think I can find a bushel of the same length and size. Yes Sir, Mr. Twigs, we shall all go up to the Fair to-morrow morning."—Ed.

STATE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS 1856.

Name.	*Where Held.*	*Date.*
American Institute, N.Y.	Crystal Palace,	Sept. 23 to Oct. 25
Illinois	Alton	" 30 Oct. 3
Michigan	Detroit	" 30 " 3
New-York	Watertown	" 30 " 3
Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	" 30 " 2
Kentucky	Paris	" 30 " 5
Missouri,	Boonville	Oct. 6—10
California	San Jose	" 7—10
Connecticut	New-Haven	" 7—10
National Ag. Show	Philadelphia	" 7—11
North Kentucky	Florence	" 7—11
Minnesota	Minneopolis	" 8—10
Wisconsin	Milwaukie	" 8—10
Iowa	Muscatine	" 8—10
New-Hampshire	Concord	" 8—10
Tennessee,	Nashville	" 13—19
Amer. Inst. Cattle Show,	New-York	" 14—16
North Carolina	Raleigh	" 14—17
Georgia	Atlanta	" 20—25
Indiana	Indianapolis	" 20—25
Maryland	Baltimore	" 21—24
Maine	Portland	" 21—24
Virginia,	Richmond	Oct. 28—Nov. 1
Alabama	Montgomery	Nov. 11—14
South Carolina	Columbia	" 11—15
South-Carolina Institute,	Charleston	" 17—22

COUNTY SHOWS FOR 1856.

	NEW-YORK.	
Chemung,	Horse-Heads	Oct. 1—3
Rockland,	New-City	" 8—9
Steuben,	Bath	" 8—9
Schuyler,	Watkins	" 8—9
Seneca,	Waterloo	" 8—10
	CONNECTICUT.	
Hartford,	Hartford	Sept. 30—Oct. 3
Middlesex,	Middletown	Oct. 1—3
	MASSACHUSETTS.	
Essex,	Newburyport	Oct. 1—2
Worcester South,	Sturbridge	" 1—2
Franklin,	Greenfield	" 1—2
Bristol,	Fall River	" 1—2
Hampden,	Springfield	" 1—3
Berkshire,	Pittsfield	" 1—3
Barnstable,	Barnstable	" 7—8
Hampshire, Franklin & Hampden,	Northam'n	" 7—8
Hampshire,	Amherst	" 9—10
	NEW-JERSEY	
Cumberland,	Bridgeton	Oct. 1—
Somerset,	Somerville	" 1—2
	OHIO.	
Putnam,	Kalida	Oct. 1—2
Ashland,	Ashland	" 1—3
Miami,	Troy	" 1—3
Jefferson,	Steubenville	" 1—3
Huron,	Olena	" 1—3
Belmont,	St. Clairsville	" 1—3
Darke,	Greenville	" 1—3
Sandusky,	Fremont	" 1—3
Muskingum,	Zanesville	" 1—3
Delaware,	Delaware	" 1—3
Richland,	Mansfield	" 1—3
Erie,	Huron	" 1—3
Clark,	Springfield	" 1—3
Morgan,	McConnellsville	" 1—3
Greene,	Xenia	" 1—3
Stark,	Massillon	" 1—3
Putnam,	Kalida	" 2—3
Hocking,	Logan	" 2—3
Hardin,	Kenton	" 2—3
Holmes,	Millersburg	" 2—3
Lake,	Painesville	" 2—4
Highland,	Hillsboro'	" 3—4
Pike,	Piketon	" 3—4
Wayne,	Wooster	" 6—8
Vinton,	McArthur	" 7—
Williams,	Bryan	" 7—8
Cuyahoga,	Cleveland	" 7—9
Mahoning,	Canfield	" 7—9
Warren,	Lebanon	" 7—9
Montgomery,	Dayton	" 7—9
Licking,	Newark	" 8—9
Ottaway,	Port Clinton	" 8—9
Wood,	Bowling Green	" 8—9
Harrison,	Cadiz	" 8—10
Preble,	Eaton	" 8—10
Summit,	Akron	" 8—10
Lorain,	Elyria	" 8—10
Champagne,	Urbana	" 8—10
Washington,	Marietta	" 8—10
Guernsey,	Washington	" 9—10
Ross,	Chillicothe	" 9—10
Hancock,	Finley	" 9—10
Columbiana,	New Lisbon	" 9—11
Morrow,	Mount Gilead	" 9—11
Clinton,	Wilmington	" 10—11
Logan,	Bellefontaine	" 14—16
Pickaway,	Circleville	" 15—17
Adams,	West Union	" 15—17
Richland,	Mansfield	" 15—17
Crawford,	Bucyrus	" 16—17
Union,	Marysville	" 16—17
Coshocton,	Coshocton	" 16—17
Noble,	Sarahsville	" 16—18
Tuscarawas,	Canal Dover	" 16—18
Seneca,	Tiffin	" 22—24
Carroll,	Carrollton	" 28—30
	MICHIGAN.	
Calhoun,	Marshall	" 7—8
Washtenaw,	Ann Arbor	" 7—9
Branch,	Coldwater	" 7—9
Shiawassee,	Corunna	" 8—9
Allegan,	Allegan	" 8—9
Jackson,	Jackson	" 8—10
Monroe,	Monroe City	" 8—10
Livingston	Howell	" 8—10
Macomb,	Armada Corners	" 9—10
St. Joseph,	Centreville	" 13—14
Ingham,	Mason	" 14—15
Kent,	Grand Rapids	" 14—16
Eaton,	Charlotte	" 15—16
Oakland,	Pontiac	" 15—17
	MAINE.	
York,	Saco	Oct. 1—2
Lincoln,	Tomastown	" 1—3
Franklin,	Farmington Falls	" 7—8
Androscoggin,	Lewiston	" 7—9
North Kennebec,	Waterville	" 7—9
South Kennebec,	Gardiner	" 7—9
West Somerset,	Madison Bridge	" 8—9
North Franklin,	Phillips	" 9—10
Kennebec,	Readfield Corner	" 8—10
Sagadahoc,	Topsham	" 9—11
West Oxford,	Brownfield	" 15—16
	ILLINOIS.	
Buel Institute,	Peru	Oct. 7—9
Rock Island,	——	" 8—9
Marshall,	Lacon	" 8—9
Lee.	Dixon	" 8—10
Edgar,	Paris	" 9—10
Lawrence.	Lawrenceville	" 10—11
Ogle,	Byron	" 21—22
	IOWA.	
Jefferson,	Fairfield	Oct. 1—2
Washington,	Washington	" 1—2
Lee,	West Point	" 1—3
Van Buren,	Keosaqua	" ——
	WISCONSIN.	
Dodge,	Horicon	Oct. 1—2
Columbia,	Wyocena	" 1—2
Dane,	Madison	" 2—3
	KENTUCKY.	
Logan,	Russellville	Oct. 1—3
Union,	Eminence	" 7—10
Washington,	Springfield	" 7—10
Northern Kentucky,	Florence	" 7—11
Warren,	Bowling Green	" 8—10
Southwestern,	Louisville	" 14—18
Central Kentucky,	Danville	" 16—19
Nelson,	Bardstown	" 21—24
	MISSOURI.	
South Western,	Springfield	Oct. 1—
Washtngton & Orange,	Livonia	" 1—3
Central Missouri,	Boonville	" 6—10
Jackson,	Independence	" 7—11
St. Louis,	St. Louis	" 13—18
Ray,	Richmond	" 15—18
South East,	Jackson	" 16—18
North Western,	St. Joseph	" 21—24

SAVE SEED CORN CAREFULLY.

In remarking upon the failure of the corn to come up last Spring, we gave as a principal reason, that much of the corn was put up last Fall in an imperfectly dried condition. This fact should be remembered *now*. Not only should extra care be taken to have all corn designed for planting next Spring thoroughly ripened and dried, but the best ears should be selected. Those ripening first are quite likely to produce the earliest ripening crop when planted again.

The largest ears should be taken, and these from the most prolific stalks. Those which are perfect, having the kernels well filled out at both ends, should in all cases be chosen.

These matters are quite too often overlooked. We have known many farmers who have expended five to ten dollars or more per acre in preparing and planting a piece of ground, from which they have gathered scarcely half a crop, simply for want of a shilling's worth of time in selecting and preparing the best seed, and this, in a greater or less degree, is too much the case generally. It is like that other piece of bad economy practiced by multitudes, who send their children to the district school a year, at an expense of thirty to fifty dollars for clothing, teachers, &c., and yet lose half the benefit to be derived, simply because they withhold one extra shilling for a suitable book.

We urge every farmer to go over his cornfields himself, as soon as the crop is ripened, and gather out the kind of ears we have indicated, and then either husk and store them away in a dry room, or go back to the old-fashioned plan of stripping down the husks, braiding them together so that the seed ears may be hung up in the attic or other safe, dry place.—[Ed.

GATHERING CORN.—SAVING GOOD SEED.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

I cut up my corn crop from the roots pretty early, so as to make as much of the stalks for fodder as possible. I drive a waggon into the field, and keep two rows cut ahead of the horses, carrying these rows back to the waggon. Three rows are then taken on each side. In this way eight rows are gathered at a time. The corn is then taken to a lot near the barn, and put up in small shooks, where it is left to dry until a convenient season for husking. When the stalks are thoroughly cured we choose a dry day and carry in all we can pile upon the barn floor where it is husked out at leisure, the corn being put into the granary and the stalks in the mow from which the wheat has been threshed. I have my corn granary under an extension of the barn roof. I am obliged to use a horse team in gathering the corn, as oxen bother me by constant feeding.

The same general plan is pursued by a neighbor who has a separate corn crib, and stacks the stalks; but all his husking must be out of doors, and this is necessarily done in dry weather only. Another large corn grower has built a long low shed as follows: Two rows of crotched stakes are set up east and west. The north row is extended above the ground six feet and the south row eight feet. String pieces runing east and west, are laid in the crotches to support a board roof. The boards—sixteen feet long—are laid on about three inches apart and the crack between them is then covered with a slab. One nail in each board and slab is sufficient to keep them in place. As rude stakes answer every purpose, and the poorest kind of boards are good enough for the roof, the entire cost of the structure is quite small.

Under this shed the corn is stowed away as fast as it is hauled from the field, and it is afterwards husked at leisure. Nothing but an unusually driving rain or snow will injure the corn and then only the outside portions. It was the intention to set a row of perpendicular boards against the south side, but after three years trial my neighbor has not considered this worth while. The husking is commenced upon one end and the stalks are piled up under the same cover until wanted for feeding.

SAVING SEED CORN.

In refering to the poor corn seed planted last spring, the Agriculturist stated that it probably resulted from putting up the corn too damp last fall. I think this must have been the difficulty. In gathering my corn as above described, I leave standing any thrifty stalks which contain two or more full sized, plump, well filled out ears. These remain in the field until perfectly ripe and dry, when the ears are plucked off and carried in baskets to a dry room over the granary where they are left *with the husks on* until spring planting. Last spring my whole crop came up beautifully at the first planting, while many of my neighbors were under the necessity of planting the second time, and several of them came to me for what excess of seed I had to spare.

An Indiana Farmer.

Remarks.—There are some good suggestions in the above communication. We should think the plan of leaving the husks upon the ear not a good one. There does not appear to be advantage, while the husks furnish additional inducements for rats and mice to harbor in the corn. The selection of the largest, best filled out ears, and allowing them to get perfectly ripe and dry before storing, are considerations of the highest importance. See our article in the August number on this subject.—Ed.

SHORTENING-IN CORN.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

In going over a patch of sweet corn recently, I could find but few ears sufficiently forward enough for cooking. What struck me as singular was, that the ears which were mature enough for use, were those from which the silk and husks had been nipped off down to the end of the cob by cattle that had broken into the field a short time previous. In their haste and greediness they had left some ears thus shortened-in, and on these ears the kernels were large and full set, while all others throughout the field, and even on the same hills, were not as ripe or perfect until a fortnight after.

I have not met with any statement of a similar fact in my reading, nor do I understand the cause. I mention it, thinking that it may furnish a hint to those growing early corn for market. It also suggests future experiments. that may result in useful discoveries.

D. B.

Staten Island, Sept. 13, 1856.

EDITOR'S FARM NOTES.

AGRICULTURE IN EASTERN CONNECTICUT.

It is no disparagement to the farmers of New-London County, to say that Windham County farmers are far ahead of them. While the former have been mainly interested in commerce, and for the last thirty year's have been investing their capital in whale ships, merchant ships, and other marine enterprizes, and sending their sons to look after their capital in the city and upon the sea, the latter have been steadily working their farms and building up factory villages to make a home market for their produce. A larger share of their sons have been retained at home upon the farm, and the old homestead has more of the air of a permanent residence where the dwellers have pitched their tent for life. The miserable system of renting farms for a long series of years, to be skinned by remorseless tenants, does not prevail so extensively as upon the sea board. Men generally own the soil they till, or mean to, as soon as they lift the mortgage. Every thing looks forward to permanence. This feeling operates most favorably upon the farming interest. To bring up a New-England farm, run down by careless tillage for a century is a work of years, and no man who expects every year to emigrate, or to change his business, will undertake such an enterprize. The man who feels settled upon his farm can safely invest his capital in his business, put up good buildings, and good fences, clear his land of stone, and deepen the soil. He will not see the results the first year, but the capital thus invested will be bringing in its returns, for his whole life time, and for his heirs after him.

Evidently, in this county, at least in the towns we visited, the farmers rely upon their farms for their livelihood. On every hand we saw evidence of intelligent husbandry. One of the most prominent objects, that strikes the visitor as he enters the county from the south, is the Academy upon Plainfield hill and thus perhaps gives us a clue to the intelligence and taste, that look out from clean meadows, the bending orchards, and the well kept gardens of so many rural homes in this region. This institution has sent out its classes every year for a generation, and many of its pupils, some of them graduates of colleges, are now found upon the farm, bringing well disciplined minds to the investigations and experiments, which are so essential to successful husbandry.

The County Agricultural Society embodies the wealth and intelligence of the whole region, and under its guidance the farming interest has been rapidly improving the past few years. Plainfield has some fine farms, but the best lands are reputed to lie in the towns of Brooklyn, Putnan, Pomfret, and Woodstock. In this middle region of the county, there is probably as good farming as can be found in the State.

DYER'S NURSERY.

The influence of this establishment which has been a long time in operation, is seen in all parts of the county. It has furnished facilities for planting orchards, and ornamental trees, and shrubs, which are still rare in farming districts. These establishments for the most part have sprung up in the vicinity of large cities and villages, and have relied mainly upon men of wealth in the suburbs for their patronage. But this is put down in the heart of a rural country, without a city, and has devoted special attention to those trees and shrubs best adapted to farm uses. Hence came many of the fine orchards in this region and hence the evergreens and deciduous trees that now shelter so many homes from the wintry blast and the summer's sun. The Messrs Dyer, upon Raspberry Hill, have illustrated upon their own grounds the capabilities of Horticulture, and every man who visits them on business goes hence with some new ideas of the useful and the beautiful, to be put in practice upon his own farm.

ORCHARDS.

The apple orchards of this region are very fine, and the display of this fruit at the county fairs is as good as any we have ever witnessed. Larger collections of course are realized at the State Fairs, but the apples of this Windham county are hard to beat. The Mexico apple originated here, and is worthy of a much wider celebrity than it now enjoys. The Cogswell Pearmain has been extensively propagated at the nurseries and has a large place in many of the orchards. It is a splendid dessert fruit of the first quality. The soil is well adapted to this fruit and its cultivation is gradually extending. It ought to have a prominent place among the exports of the county.

SOIL.

The rocks which show themselves in boulders and ledges in all parts of the county belong to the "Eastern primary group" according to Percival, and are granitic, porphyritic, or micaceous gneiss. The soil varies from a stiff strong clay to a light loam but slightly argillaceous; in general however clay loams predominate, and with judicious cultivation may be brought to high fertility. There is a remarkable strip of Sandy land lying along the west of the Quinebaug, a mile or two wide and terminating near Brooklyn village. This land produces excellent rye, but needs a large admixture of muck or clay, to make it largely productive.

The soil on the eastern and western borders of the county is of poorer quality, and is more rocky. It is however good grazing land, and the chief profits of the farm are from dairy produce. The stock is native, crossed with blooded animals, and the aim has been to develop milking qualities.

The progress which farming is making in this region is indicated by the increased attention paid to the making of manures. On the best farms, it is carefully housed. The old and wasteful process of wintering stock at the hay-stack has been abandoned, cattle are sheltered, and the manure saved in barn cellars, or under sheds erected for the purpose. Muck from the swamps is drawn to the yards and stables, and the luxuriant crops herald the praises of these ores of the farmers' mines. There is a growing faith, that capital expended in this business is remunerative; that a farmer may make money as surely as any of his neighbors, if not as fast, while he enjoys life far better. Farming conducted with skill and capital puts on a new aspect to the young. The homestead is no longer a rude shelter from the weather, treeless and comfortless. It is the abode of human beings, with cultivated minds and refined tastes, meeting man's esthetic as well as his physical wants. A very good time of it we had in Windham County, and if we go another year, we expect to have a better.—Ed.

A LITTLE THING.

"For want of a nail the shoe was lost, for want of a shoe the horse was lost, for want of a horse the man was lost."

Being in the country, I had an example of one of those small losses which a family is exposed to through negligence. For the want of a latchet of small value, the wicket of a barn-yard leading to the fields was often left open. Every one who went through drew the door to; but as there was nothing to fasten the door with, it was always left flapping; sometimes open and sometimes shut. So the cocks and hens, and the chickens, got out and ran off to the woods; and after the pig ran all the people about the place—the gardener, and the cook, and the dairy-maid. The gardener first caught sight of the runaway, and hastening after it, sprained his ankle; in consequence of this the poor man was not able to get out of the house again for a month. The cook found, when she came back from pursuing the pig, that the linen she had left by the fire had fallen down and was burning; the dairy-maid having, in her haste, neglected to tie up one of her cows, the cow had kicked a colt that was in the same stable, and broken its leg. The gardener's loss of time was worth twenty-five dollars, to say nothing of the pain to be suffered. The linen which was burned, and the colt which was spoiled, were worth as much more. Here, then, was caused a loss of fifty dollars, as well as much trouble, plague and vexation, for the want of a latch which would not have cost three cents.—Say.

High or Low Church.—Father Taylor pastor of the Seaman's Floating Chapel in Boston Harbor, was once asked whether he was High or Low Church. "That" said he, "depends upon the state of the Tide."

When the day breaks what becomes of the fragments? Dissolved in light, of course.

RECLAIMING SALT MARSHES.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

I have an undertaking of this kind in prospect, and should like to draw a little upon the wisdom of any of your readers who have done this kind of work or seen it done.

First, I wish to know about the embankment to shut off the sea water, how strong it must be, and of what material made.

Second, about the culvert and tide gate. What is the best mode of constructing them?

Thirdly, about the ditching. How many to the acre, and how wide and deep should they be?

Fourthly, in breaking up the black marsh turf, which is some six or eight inches thick, is shallow, or deep plowing better?

Fifth, can upland grasses be sown upon the turf without plowing, with success?

Sixth, What is the best crop for the first planting upon such land?

Seventh, What have been the results of reclaiming salt marshes? Do they bring satisfactory crops, and does grass hold its vigor as long as in reclaimed fresh water swamps?

I have found it difficult to glean much upon these topics from the reports of our Agricultural Societies, or from our journals. I shall be glad to hear upon these topics from any of the readers of the Agriculturist who have had experience in the matter.—Inquirer.

DRAINING AND RECLAIMING SWAMPS.

The following interesting and instructive account of the manner of reclaiming a swamp was furnished to the New-York State Agricultural Society by Mr. William A. Johnson:

I have on my farm about eighteen acres of flat, low land, being a sort of a basin for the deposit of the water running from a large tract of surrounding lands. The soil is a kind of vegetable mold interspersed with clay, with a clay sub-soil. Ten years ago I purchased the farm on which I now reside. At that time this piece was overgrown with small trees, bushes, willows, bog-grass, &c., presenting a most unsightly appearance, and was considered almost a nuisance; in fact, it was known and pointed out as *the swamp*. The spring after I came in possession of it, I cut down all the trees and bushes, burned them, together with a large quantity of old logs, tree tops, &c., then dug an open ditch two and a half feet deep through the lowest part of it, which carried off a considerable portion of the *surface* water, and was really a great improvement, but was not what the land required, (nor what I intended to do as soon as more pressing improvements were disposed of,) it being a rough uneven piece, full of holes, with a close tenacious subsoil, the water standing in the low places a considerable portion of the year, and of course too wet to be tilled with any success.

Last Spring I commenced the work of under-draining it in earnest, by cutting a ditch along the east and lowest side of the lot for a *main drain*, thirty inches deep, to be laid with six inch tile. I then commenced on the north and lowest end of the lot with the cross drains, making them about thirty-two feet apart, (varying a little according to the situation of the surface,) nearly at right angles with and entering into the main drain. Now for the *result.* As the drains progressed, the water began to disappear from the surface, and within one week after the drains were dug, the water *entirely* disappeared from the *lowest* places. The effect was striking and remarkable to every one who witnessed it. That portion through which the drains had been cut being entirely dry, whilst the other portion immediately adjoining was literally soaked in water, and as fast as the drains progressed, the water would as rapidly disappear. The experiment has proved *entirely* satisfactory, and I have already plowed about one-third of the lot, and intend to plant the whole of it to *corn* next Spring; in fact, I expect after it shall have been thoroughly tilled, it will be one of the *driest* lots on the farm, and if the season proves favorable, I have no doubt the corn crop will tell well next year.

The actual amount expended in draining the nine acres above described is $234 20, showing the whole expense to be about $26 per acre, the items of which are given below.

Digging 630 rods drains, at 12c.....	$75 00
" 42 " main drain, at 14c..	5 88
586 six inch tile, at $18 per 1,000.	10 58
1,680 two inch pipe tile, at $12 50 per 1,000......................	21 00
7,560 one and a half inch pipe tile, at $9 per 1,000......................	68 04
Drawing 588 six inch tile..........	2 00
" 1,680 two inch pipe tile....	2 50
" 7,560 one and a half inch pipe tile......................	11 00
400 feet of lumber for bottom of main drain......................	4 00
Leveling bottom and laying tile, 672 rods, at 2c. per rod.............	13 44
Filling same, at 3c. per rod........	20 16
	$234 20

The cost per rod of the different sized drains, with the *items*, are given below, the difference in the cost being chiefly the difference between the price of *large* or *small* tile, viz.:

586 six inch tile......................	$10 58
Digging 42 rods, at 14c. per rod....	5 88
Laying and filling same.............	2 10
Drawing tile..........................	2 00
Lumber for bottom....................	4 00
Total expense, (or 58½c. per rod)...	$24 56

TWO INCH TILE.

1,680 two inch tile, $12 50 per 1,000	$21 00
Digging 120 rods, at 12c. per rod...	14 40
Laying and covering 120 rods tile, at 5c. per rod......................	6 00
Drawing tile..........................	2 50
Total, (or 36½c. per rod)............	$43 90

ONE AND A HALF INCH TILE.

7,560 1½ inch tile, at $9 per 1,000...	$68 04
Digging 510 rods, at 12c. per rod...	61 00
Laying and covering same..........	25 50
Drawing tile..........................	11 00
Total, (or about 32½c. per rod).....	$165 74

Thus I have given a correct history of the above, hoping that it may be the means of inducing my brother farmers to improve some of the waste places on their farms which are now entirely worthless, and when thus improved are the most valuable part of their farms, and would by thus doing add many valuable acres to their farms.

I have endeavored to give the *facts* distinctly, and in such form that I hope you will be able to understand them.

A HORSE WITH THE HEAVES.

I tried all sorts of heave powders on my patient, with no effect whatever. It is said that in a limestone country this disease is unknown, and lime water was prescribed with no apparent advantage. Some one told me to give the horse ginger, and strange to tell, I found that a tablespoonful of ginger given to the "General" with his oats, would cure him for the day, in half an hour after he had eaten it; but on giving it daily the effect soon ceased. It is a jockey's remedy and will last long enough to swap upon. Finally, I was advised to cut my horses' fodder and give it always wet. I pursued that course carefully, keeping the "General" tied with so short a halter that he could not eat his bedding, giving him chopped hay and meal three times a day, and never more than a bucket of water at a time.

He improved rapidly. I have kept him five years, making him a *factotum*—carriage horse, saddle horse, plow and cart horse—and he bids fair to remain useful for five years to come. Kept in this way, his disease does not lessen his value for speed or labor, a single dollar. When the boys grow careless, and give him dry hay, he informs me of it in a few days by the peculiar cough I have mentioned; but sometimes for six months together, no indication of disease is visible, and he would pass for a sound horse with the most knowing in such matters. There is no doubt that clover hay, probably because of its dust, often induces the heaves. Stable keepers, with us, refuse it altogether for this reason.

Many suppose that the wind of the horse is affected by the heaves, so that fast driving at any time will, as we express it, put him out of breath. With my horse, it is not so. When the "General" was at the worst, rapid driving, when just from the stable, would increase his difficulty, but a mile or two of moderate exercise would dissipate the symptoms entirely. We have, occasionally, what are called *wind-broken* horses, which are nearly worthless for want of wind. They can never be driven rapidly without great distress, and frequently give out entirely by a few mile's driving. This is thought to be a different disease. The "General's" case is, I suppose, a fair example of the *heaves.*

I have no doubt that regular feeding with chopped and wet fodder, and exclusion of dust from hay fed to other animals in the same stable, would render many horses now deemed almost worthless, and which manifestly endure great suffering, equally valuable for most purposes, with those that are sound.

[Indiana Farmer.

A CHAPTER ON WATERING HORSES.

Although few persons pay proper attention to this department of stable management, yet a little reflection will prove of how much importance it is that the horse should be supplied with such water as is most palatable to him. Horses have a great aversion to what is termed hard water, and have been known to turn away from the filthy stuff found in the trough of some of our stables: the water of wells and pumps in our seaport towns is usually hard, and possesses a degree of coldness not at all congenial with the palate of the animal. The intense coldness of well water, in the Summer months, has been known to gripe, and produce spasmodic colic, injuring the animal in other ways.

Pure water will never hurt a horse, if given to him at proper times and in small quantities; the English grooms generally water from a bucket three times daily; water given in this manner scarcely, if ever, does harm; but let a horse be driven hard, and then allow him to go to the trough and imbibe water, *ad libitum*, more than he actually needs, the same may prove injurious, and result in some disease known as "*founder.*" The latter clause is in accordance with the popular theories of the day, which are always open to argument. Hence, we shall now examine into the merits of the case.

We don't believe one-half of the multitude of stories that are told about water "*foundering horses*;" in a great majority of cases the blame rests with Mr. Fastman, who has either over-driven or over-worked the poor brute, or else has suffered him, when heated, to cool off without the necessary care and attention which should always be observed when animals are fatigued or perspiring freely.

Hard usage, wilful neglect, and wanton cruelty are more likely to produce disease than the "universal beverage" so acceptable to the palate of a weary or thirsty horse. How often do we see a "*let*" horse come into the stable all exhausted and *used-up*, scarcely able to advance one limb before another? Examine into the facts, and we shall find that the powers of the subject have perhaps been overtaxed. He has been driven too far, or at too rapid a rate for the present state of his constitution to endure; and perhaps he has not had sufficient nourishment to repair the waste incidental to the living mechanism under the states of rapid and protracted labor. Is not this enough to account for the used-up condition? Is it not more rational to suppose that abuse of the respiratory organs, and those of locomotion, operates far more unfavorably on the horse than water? It is. But Mr. Fastman must, if there be any blame rightly belonging to him, try to shift the same from his shoulders, and therefore he avails himself of a popular error, "*He drank too much water.*" Yet the individual has no means of ascertaining the precise quantity needed. We might say the same as regards our truck horses, whose labors are very fatiguing; they come from their work, and as soon as unharnessed, go to the trough and imbibe from one to three buckets without any bad effect. Some horses need more water than others; the kind of work, the temperature of the atmosphere, and the nature of the food, whether it be *wet* or *dry*, all tend to diversify an animal's want. The domesticated horse requires a bountiful supply of good water; his body is composed of seventy-five per cent. of the same, and he can no more exist without it than he can without food.

Consider for a moment the condition of the people of this city during the present sultry season; thirst almost amounts to a disease; to allay the same, they are continually imbibing water, rendered cold, hot, sour, sweet or alkaline, just as fancy dictates, or as fashion prevails; cold ices and other fixings are called into requisition to smother the fire of thirst that rages within; everybody partakes freely, the young and the aged, the exhausted and vigorous, the laborer, exhausted by a hard day's work, and the rich man, of no work, each and all are doing their best to see the bottom of the pitcher, and to pitch their bodies into the watery element; yet, after all, how few persons complain of any bad effects from the same.

Enquire into the history of some of the acute maladies that are supposed to arise from water-drinking, and it will be found that many of the sufferers have a peculiarity of constitution which renders them amenable to the laws of primogenial disease, which, although latent under ordinary circumstances, can, by disturbing the life forces through neglect, cruelty and overwork, be developed at almost any time of life.

At this stage, our argument as regards what water "will *not* do," ends. We have at the commencement admitted that under certain circumstances, if a horse be permitted to imbibe too much, it may injure him, but this is rather a faulty assumption, because no one can ever determine the precise quantity suitable to meet the wants of all animals, and therefore the assumption falls to the ground. We shall bring this article to a termination by offering a few practical observations on watering horses.

Horses should, in warm weather, be watered often, say two to three quarts every three or four hours, provided the horse be at work; should he be in a cool stable enjoying a sort of lazy life, he will require less, and three times per day will be often enough to supply his wants.

"*Strange water*," as it is termed, is not good for horses; yet, when given in small quantities at a time, seldom, if ever, does harm.

Stagnant and filthy water is always more or less injurious, and should never be offered to so noble an animal as a horse.

On the road, a horse may be watered often, provided he have but a small quantity at a time; if he obtain more, it occupies space in the abdominal cavity, and in rapid motion interferes with the physiological action of important viscera.

Watering immediately after a full meal is a practice highly censurable; for at such times water retards digestion, and the food, instead of being digested, is apt to undergo a process of fermentation.—[Ed. American Veterinary Journal.

ABOUT FATTENING HOGS.

We have written so much on this subject that we can hardly say a word now that will not savor of repetition. To our new readers we say in brief.

First—Let the fattening of swine be attended to early. When cold weather comes, a large amount of food is required to keep up the warmth of the animal, which in milder weather would be converted into lard. This rule holds good in fattening any animal. So also a warm pen and but little exercise will promote the accumulation of fat.

Second.—Keep the pens clean. We have reasons, from experience as well as theory, for saying that hogs will flesh up much faster on the same amount of food in a cleanly pen than in one kept in a filthy condition.

Third.—Feed the coarser kinds of food first, such as mast, peas, barley, &c. These give bulk to the animal. Finish off with corn, which contains a larger supply of oil or fat producing elements. This food rapidly fills with fat the chinks of the large frame grown on the coarse food. The following humorous article from the Rural New-Yorker, contains several valuable suggestions, such as we have often inculcated, done up in a lively style.

The first requirement to success in this department of farm economy is—a good anatomical structure on which to build the flesh. Razor breeds shave their owners and the community at large. Long-legged, slab-sided animals may answer for the purpose of "making good time" on the way to the trough, but for filling pork barrels they are totally inadequate. If a farmer has no other cribs in which to place his corn, two or three pigs of this description will allay any anxiety on that score. Furthermore, the only ears to which a hog should run, are ears of corn, these appendages may give to the donkey a grave look—but on a pig! *Good breeders deliver us!*

Having briefly stated what we do not want we may as well give our *beau ideal—there is a beau ideal in the form of a pig*—and we doubt not it would be an object of as intense interest, when well portrayed by the brush or the chisel, as anything in the higher walks of art. First, swine should be small boned, and compact; the back uniformly broad and rounded along the whole body. The touch on the back firm but springy; legs short; loin and breast broad; neck short, thick and deep; cheeks rounded and well filled out; face not dishing but straight; nose fine; eyes bright; ears well set, thin and soft to touch; head small in proportion to body. This is a description when fat—and can only be manufactured by getting the right material to construct it with. Get a pig of this formation—call the breed what you like—and you will have profitable porkers.

The pig is omnivorous—will eat anything and everything that is edible. Regularity is the prime object. Give them their meals at stated periods—not fill them one day and starve them the next. We have read of those who followed the last mentioned plan but it was for a purpose—to "get a streak of lean and a streak of fat," and one thing their hearts desired they got—the lean streak. Judgment ought to be used in this matter. A hog can squeal off an ounce or two of fat in a short time. Those having a taste for that kind of music may indulge, "we'll none of it." Give them no more food than they will readily eat from the trough, over feeding is almost as much of an error as too little. Clean water will be an acquisition to the sty—if a running stream could be conducted into their feeding quarters they would derive much benefit therefrom.

Let there be a variety of food, at least in the early stages of fattening. Corn, potatoes, peas, beans, parsnips, pumpkins, carrots, cabbage, turnips, etc., will all be found useful. In feeding roots it will be well to mix two or more varieties—pigs are sometimes dainty in taste—what one relishes another may not care about.

If you have any number of swine a steaming apparatus will be found both convenient and economical. It prepares the food to be more readily acted upon by the digestive organs, and whatever will tend to this object, diminishes the necessity of an expenditure of vital force to its accomplishment, and of necessity enables the animal to thrive more rapidly upon a certain quantity. Let the food be given warm—at the temperature of the body. Cold or frozen food in cold weather must, from the nature of things, be attended by a loss of energy and vitality on the part of the animal to which it is fed.

Their bed, as well as board, is a matter of consideration. Plenty of straw or coarse hay should be given them. It will pay better in the pig-pen than to sell it in the market.

Keep your pigs clean. Pigs as well as children will exhibit their bringing up. Unclean swine are the victims of a perverted taste—nature never made them thus. "As dirty as a hog" is an epithet often applied to those slovenish in matter and manners, and inferences may be rightly drawn when hogs *en masse* are included—but as far as yours are concerned if it means anything, let it be that a man as clean as your swine would be a respectable looking individual. A hog whose rearing has been what it should, will never forget his education, will always walk in the way he should go, and on points of principle will oft-times shame his possessor.

An old miser owning a farm, found it impossible to do his work without assistance and accordingly offered any man food for performing the requisite labor. A half starved man hearing of the terms accepted them. Before going into the fields in the morning, he invited his help to breakfast; after finishing the morning meal, the old skin-flint thought it a saving of time if they should place the dinner upon the breakfast. This was readily agreed to by the unsatisfied stranger, and the dinner was soon dispatched. "Suppose now," said the frugal farmer, "we take supper; it will save time and trouble, you know. "Just as you like it," said the eager eater, and at it they went. "Now we will go to work, said the delighted employer. "Thank you," said the laborer, "I never work after supper."

HARVESTING POTATOES.

EXPERIENCE OF A SWISS FARMER.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

It is scarcely necessary for me to begin this communication by saying that I read the Agriculturist with much pleasure (probably all readers will say as much). I may say that I came from Switzerland, and have traveled in several countries on the continent, to observe the various methods pursued by farmers in performing their different kinds of work. I love to read the experience of others, and cheerfully contribute my own if it will gratify or benefit others.

In answer to the inquiries of an Old Farmer in your September issue, I would answer. Potatoes are a kind of *Night Shade* crop as we call it, and they grow most when the nights become longer. On this account it is preferable to harvest them as late as possible. At all events we carefully keep them from air and light. Our farmers who have cellars put their potatoes in these until they are full, and then put the rest in pits. Experiments have shown a very great difference however in the methods of pitting them. The following plan we have found the best:

We dig a pit one foot deep, six feet wide, and as long as may be needed. If deeper than one foot the potatoes are more liable to heat. The potatoes are then put in and heaped up as high as they will lie, in the form of a long ridge. We then cover them with the soil removed from the pit. *We use no straw at all,* because it adds to the warmth and makes them sooner germinate and decay. Let any one try two heaps side by side, the one with straw under the earth put on, and the other without, and he will find a marked difference in favor of not using any straw. We do not leave any air-holes, finding that they injure the potatoes. In winter, on some days of extraordinary cold, we cover the outside of the pits with a coating of straw.

At first only two or three inches of soil are put on. As it grows colder more soil is added. This is taken up from the sides of the pits in such a way as to form drains one-and-a-half to two feet deep. This drain is very important to keep the potatoes and the ground under them dry. When several long pits are arranged side by side, they are put four to five feet apart and a good drain is made between every two. A few pits thus arranged together resemble a fort, and present a fine sight; and in spring you may expect to dig out excellent potatoes.

In the same manner as described for potatoes—we preserve our turnips and other roots. I know of some best sugar fabriques [manufacturers] who cover thirty to forty acres with such pits. In summer this ground is used for garden crops raising different kinds of seed, &c.

Respectfully, HENRY ENDERIS.
FREEPORT, Illinois, September, 16, 1856.

"HARD CIDER."

Since this article does not enter into the present political campaign as a distinctive feature, there will be no *extra* demand for it this Fall. Still, good cider, to be used in the manufacture of vinegar, apple sauce, "apple butter," &c., will be in fair request and at good prices, as the apple crop in most sections of the country will be far from abundant. With a little experience as well as observation upon cider making, as it is generally carried on, we have become rather fastidious in purchasing cider, "hard" or "soft," even though it be designed for vinegar only. Last Autumn we happened near a cider mill in operation, and had the curiosity to examine a pile of the fruit brought there to be "ground up." To say nothing of the filthy condition of the apples—some of which gave indubitable evidences that the cows had pastured under the trees where they grew and had fallen—we counted enough of them to estimate that each barrel of cider would contain the expressed "juice" of not less than one thousand apple worms, or over forty worms to each gallon—that is, ten to a quart, and so on. The reader, if a cider drinker, must estimate for himself how many enter into the composition of one of *his* draughts.

We are told, however, that all impurities "work off" during fermentation, but we are still puzzled to know by what chemical law the "worm extract," "liquid manure," and such like fluids, are led to separate from the simon pure apple juice. Perhaps this is not desirable. Who can say that the rich flavor of certain kinds of cider, including that exported and re-imported as champagne, may not be owing to an excess of oily matter from the bodies of those fatty animals hatched from the egg of the codding or apple moth, deposited in the maturing fruit? A friend at our elbow suggests that the worms feed upon, and grow from the apple, and are only a part of it. We give it up. *De gustibus non est disputandum.*

However, we will suggest to apple growers, that wormy apples are generally nearly devoid of juice, while they are not deficient in nutritive matter for swine and other animals; and that it will not only add to the pleasure of consuming the product of the cider mill in its various subsequent forms, but it may be quite as profitable to feed their wormy apples and use sound ones only for cider making.—[ED.

PEPPERS.—Take those fresh and green, soak in salt and water eight or nine days, opening and turning out the seeds, if not wanted very hot. Stuff with white cabbage and horse radish chopped fine and seasoned highly with mustard seed, mace, cinnamon, cloves, &c. Sew up carefully, and put in cold prepared vinegar.

Garden, Orchard, Lawn, &c.

ORCHARD APPLES.—THE BEST KINDS.

[The following article was prepared at our special request, by one of the largest fruit-growers of our country, who has had much experience and extensive observation, and who is universally acknowledged as good authority on this subject. His opinions are unusually reliable, if on no other account, at least because he is not, we believe, a seller of trees, and has no ax to grind. We commend the article to careful perusal, and to preservation for future reference.—Ed. American Agriculturist.]

The first question with those who purpose planting out an orchard usually is, after the preliminaries of locality, space and other arrangements are made, what *kinds* shall I plant? This is a compound question, subject to several divisions. In the first place, the planter should consult his market; next, his soil; then, his climate. Understanding each of these thoroughly, he can then address himself to the varieties with an understanding of his business. There is still another thing in coming at details in orchard cultivation which he should first learn; viz., what are the best and *most successfully* cultivated apples in his neighborhood? Apples are disposed to grow their varieties in some localities better than in others. We have some districts of country in which excellent varieties have originated, and where they grow better than in almost any other region, the climate and soil exactly suiting them in developing their finest flavor, size, color, and every good quality. There are other places where these same apples will not succeed at all, or but indifferently. Other varieties there are which are almost universally applicable in climates varying through several degrees of latitude and longitude, in different soils and elevations. So that, unless one is going to establish his orchards in a new and unsettled region, he can scarcely be at a loss what to plant. As a general rule, we would say, if there be a really *superior* variety growing well in your locality, *suitable to the market* in its *profitable* season, go largely into it, no matter what the kind, if a hardy tree, and an abundant bearer.

SUMMER APPLES.

If you are near a large market, not easily overstocked, early varieties are usually the most in demand, and at the highest prices. Yet early varieties are not usually as good bearers as the later kinds, but they sell quick, at good prices, and are readily off your hands. Of these kinds, popular and profitable, may be named—Early Harvest, (tart;) Bough, (sweet;) American Summer Pearmain, (sub-acid;) Kentish Codling, in season for cooking from July to October—the *best* tart of any other, and the soonest cooked; Red Astrachan, (sub-acid;) and [in New England] William's Favorite, (sub-acid.) These kinds are enough. There are some other varieties *local* to certain places, that are decidedly good, and when you find them, plant largely of such.

FALL APPLES.

Fall varieties, in order of ripening: Golden Sweeting; Fall Pippin, (sub-acid;) Jersey Sweeting, (for New Jersey and Central New York;) Gravenstein, (sub-acid;) Lyman's Pumpkin *Sweet*, (for baking;) Porter, (sub-acid, and one of the best for cooking;) Rambo, (in New Jersey and Ohio; sub-acid.)

WINTER APPLES.

Winter varieties: Baldwin (sub-acid).—Yellow Bellefleur (sub-acid), for the rich soils of the Western States; for cooking, and wonderfully fine.—Hubbardston's Nonsuch (sub-acid), for New England and New York.—Jonathan, or Philip's Rick (sub-acid), for Ulster County, and the Hudson River Counties between Albany and West Point.—Newtown Pippin (sub-acid), wherever it will flourish and bear well, and that is chiefly on Long Island, New Jersey near New York, and the Hudson River Counties; this is the very best apple for the table and kitchen in the world!—Northern Spy (sub-acid), for Western New York.—Pomme Grise (sub-acid), for Canada and the Northern Counties of New York; this is a very long keeper, and of the richest flavor, though small.—Rhode Island Greening (sub-acid), for New England, New York, and Northern Ohio; one of the very best for cooking, but rather tart for the table.—For the same sections: English, or Poughkeepsie Russet (sub-acid); one of the richest of the long keepers; Roxbury Russet (sub-acid); rich, and a long keeper.—Swaar (sub-acid), for Ulster County, New York, and Western Counties of that State, on warm, rich lands.—Tolman's Sweeting; the best Winter-baking apple that grows, wherever it will flourish.—Esopus Spitzenburgh (sub-acid), for Western New York and the Hudson River Counties; this is the highest flavored apple known, excepting, perhaps, the Newtown Pippin.—Vanderveer (sub-acid), for warm soils of New Jersey and New York; no apple excels this in delicacy and richness of flavor.—Waxen Gate or Belmont (sub-acid), for Northern Ohio.—Westfield-Seek-no-further (sub-acid); the *best* apple of the Connecticut Valley, and good in Western Massachusetts and New York.—Pomme de Neige, and Fameuse or Snow Apple (sub-acid), for Canada and Western New York.

To these may be added, for the Southern country, as *tried*, substantial fruits in their seasons: Rawl's Janet (sub-acid), for Southern Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, &c., and Kentucky for Winter.—Cooper (sub-acid); Fall; very fine in Ohio.—Limber-twig (sub-acid), for Winter, in Southern Ohio, Kentucky, and further North.—Primate (sub-acid), early Fall, for Central and Western New York; and some other fine varieties local to the Western States, not now recollected.

But we would not recommend any orchardist to cultivate for his own marketing more than a dozen varieties in all. His main rules in selecting varieties should be:

First. Hardy trees, strong growers, and as near as may be annual bearers.

Second. Sizeable, fair, well-shaped fruit, of *fashionable* colors; and these are yellow, red, or yellow ground striped with bright red. Some people buy apples almost altogether by the color; and in these particulars, suit your market, if the fruit is good, or even of tolerable flavor. The *eye* has to be pleased as well as the *taste.*

Third. Give your trees *good soil*, *good cultivation;* set at least two rods (thirty-three feet) apart, and then "go ahead."

And lastly, don't believe half the stories the nursery catalogues tell of the good qualities of the fruits they have on sale. They may be *all* true of *each* kind, in *certain places.* Get few kinds, and those good, and let *fancy* people try the experiments.

To sum up the whole story, we believe that if we were now to start a new orchard for a future livelihood, we should confine ourselves to six varieties at the extent—two early; two late; and two Winter varieties, and then we should be certain that our trade would be well learned, and that we should have time to attend to it.

BLOOMING OF APPLE TREES DURING FIFTY-NINE YEARS.

Below we present a table recently furnished us by Mr. Isaac Stearns, of Mansfield, Mass., showing the date of the blooming of apple trees in that town each spring, from 1798 to the present year. These dates refer to the day on which the blossoms had fully expanded on the different varieties of apple trees, excepting some of the late kinds, such as the Russet. The notes were commenced by Isaac Stearns, Sr., and continued until his death, in 1837, since which time they have been carefully continued by the family. The registerings were made on the margins of the Farmers' Almanac, complete files of which have been preserved. The figures furnish data for comparing the forwardness of each spring season. The dates of full blossoming are as follows:

1798....	May 13	1818....	May 27	1838....	May 30
1799...	May 19	1819....	May 27	1839....	May 18
1800....	May 17	1820....	May 17	1840....	May 17
1801....	May 17	1821....	May 27	1841....	May 29
1802....	May 26	1822....	May 15	1842....	May 19
1803....	May 22	1823....	May 23	1843....	May 22
1804....	May 22	1824....	May 19	1844....	May 11
1805....	May 14	1825....	May 15	1845....	May 21
1806....	May 27	1826....	May 15	1846....	May 15
1807....	May 27	1827....	May 17	1847....	May 28
1808....	May 18	1828....	May 17	1848....	May 19
1809....	May 25	1829....	May 21	1849....	May 29
1810....	May 19	1830....	May 9	1850....	June 3
1811....	May 15	1831....	May 14	1851....	May 22
1812....	June 2	1832....	May 31	1852....	May 26
1813....	May 25	1833....	May 12	1853....	May 14
1814....	May 14	1834....	May 20	1854....	May 21
1815....	May 27	1835....	May 29	1855....	May 26
1816....	May 28	1836....	May 21	1856....	May 28
1817....	May 23	1837....	May 30		

On the above table, Mr. Stearns remarks that the two extreme dates are May 9, 1830, and June 3, 1850—a difference of 25 days. The mean of these two dates is May 21½, which is the mean of the whole 59 years—the first half averaging May 21, and the second half May 22.

These reliable records will rather stand in the way of the theories of those who claim that our seasons are gradually growing colder. According to this table, the spring of 1812 opened later than any year since, with the exception of that of 1850. The past spring was considered a very late one, but was earlier than 1812, 1818, 1832, 1835, 1837, 1838, 1849, and 1850, and varied but little from 1802, 1806, 1807, 1809, 1813, 1815, 1816, 1819, 1829, 1841, 1847, 1852 and 1855.

The thirteen earliest seasons were in order: 1830, 1844, 1833, 1798, 1805, 1814, 1831, 1853, 1811, 1822, 1825, 1826, 1846, in each of which years the full blossoms appeared before or on the 15th of May.

The thirteen latest seasons occurred as follows: 1851, 1812, 1832, 1837, 1838, 1818, 1835, 1856, 1816, 1847, 1806, 1807 and 1815. —Ed.

GRAPE GROWING.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

In your last issue (September) the following questions are asked, by a correspondent, which I take pleasure in answering.

First—"Will the main stem of the imported grape be likely to suffer during winter, if left unprotected, provided the top or bearing branches are under glass cover?" Yes, more or less according to the severity of the winter, such an one as last was would be sure to kill the vines. I saw a house of vines eight years old last summer, which have been rendered entirely worthless from this cause.

Second—"If protection is necessary, will a covering of straw closely bound on be sufficient?" Straw covering is frequently soaked by rain, and being in close contact with the vine there is absorption of the moisture by the stem, which, during severe frost, will burst the cellular structure by the expansion of the fluids. A close fitting case of inch-and-a-half wood is much better, the stem being kept dry thereby, and better protected.

Third—"Will the head branches bear equally as well at the distance of 30 to 40 feet from the root as nearer?" Yes, providing there be age and bulk enough in the stem, and the roots proportionate and healthy.

"The wild native grapes are said to produce their best fruit at the tops of the supporting trees, say 40 to 80 feet from the root of the vine." Very true, but they did not get into a bearing state up there, in a year or two.—"Will the same be the case with the exotic or foreign grapes?" Yes, if they be in a suitable climate. Such is the case in many examples in Southern Europe. The difficulty here is in getting the exotic grape vine to do well for a number of years, that is, until there shall be a well matured constitutional vigor of root and stem to support the extreme draw at the top which takes place under such circumstances.

Your suggestions, with regard to making "the house-top" into a grapery are very good, were it not for the above mentioned, almost generally, insurmountable difficulties. There are many sheltered spots in city lots where the exotic grape vine would do well most seasons, and in such the plan might be carried out in course of time, but when done the pleasure derived would be the only practical profit; the calculation of a few figures by an experienced mind, would soon show this to be a fact.

Respectfully Yours,
Wm. Chorlton.
New Brighton, S. I., Sept., 12, 1856.

We thank Mr. Chorlton, for the above, and we hope hereafter to hear from him frequently on practical grape growing. His book on grape culture, is an admirable little treatise, and those who have seen his grapes at almost every Horticultural Exhibition held in this vicinity during several years past will testify that he can *do* as well as *say*.—Ed.

CAN GRAPES BE GROWN IN ATTICS?

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

The article on your 283d page, mentioning the enquiries of Mr. Tarbox, of Brooklyn, concerning foreign grape vines, and the practicability or advisability of using our attics or garrets as graperies and forcing houses, is one to attract considerable attention. I will answer the questions proposed in your article.

First. "The main stem of the imported grape" *will* "be likely to suffer during Winter, if left unprotected," whether the "top or bearing branches are under cover" or not.

Second. "A covering of straw, if thick enough and properly applied," will be sufficient, and so will moss; but six inches is the least possible thickness compatible with safety.

Third. "The head branches" will not bear as large bunches "at the distance of thirty to forty feet from the root as "nearer," nor will the grapes in the bunches be as large, but the vines will bear as much *weight* of fruit, making up for the deficiency in size by increase in numbers both of bunches and grapes, and what is of a deal of importance, the *flavor* will be *finer*. The "exotic or foreign grapes" are governed by the same general rules as the native.

Your suggestion as to attics converted into graperies is a good one—the glass roofs will give a very fine appearance, and grapes will do well—but the plant with the utmost care can make but about forty feet of growth in a season, and the next year this must be cut back to ten feet in order to ensure the soundness of the wood and the health of the vine; nor can any variety of foreign grape be allowed, consistent with the permanent strength of the vine, to net more than ten feet of growth each year. Consequently, it will be three or four years before any results whatever can, by the utmost pains, be attained in the way of fruit.

But, secondly: during two of these four years, or three of them, if the attic be far enough from the ground to require it, the vines will need protection and care outside the building, for the growing vine must have very different care and treatment from the naked stem. The expense of this outside work will be great, and would almost equal that of a moderate vinery.

As to occupying the attic of a residence for a forcing or propagating house, we would as readily have it occupied for a carpenter's or painter's workshop. It is utterly impossible for the labors of the forcing house or the propagating pit to be carried on without an amount of litter and disturbance, which would far more than counterbalance all the "actual profit" which could be realized.

When a store or work-shop of only one story can have the floor of its garret a grapery, at not over ten to fifteen feet from the ground, the vines, while being carried up on the outside of the building, can be cultivated under moveable sash, and can be led into the attic so as to require the extra amount of care above spoken of during only one, or at the most two years. In such case some returns might be expected during the third year.

Plans for rendering the upper part of our houses more useful in various ways than they are at present, have often been proposed. Once it was *the* thing to have our garrets full of bees, and the land was to flow with honey. Again: the attics were to be *the* roosting places for domestic fowls, and the waste heat of the houses was to convert the garret into a regular eccaleobion, while broiled chickens were to form the regular Winter breakfast, and families during the intensest weather were to rejoice daily in undoubted new-laid eggs.

But these plans and many more have had their day, and I very much fear that the attic grapery plan, though as practicable as the others, will not meet with much favor in the long run from common sense men. The difficulty and expense of the outside preparatory labors will put a veto upon the undertaking.

C. P. Bissell.
Rochester, Sept. 8, 1856.

MORE ABOUT ATTIC GRAPERIES.

[Our queries on this subject last month have called forth several replies, of which we have room for a part only. Elsewhere we give the answers of Mr. Bissell, of Rochester, and of Mr. Chorlton, of Staten Island. The following is from Mr. Frederick C. Graeff, Nanuet, Rockland Co., N. Y., who is well known to most of our horticultural readers. Mr. G. has had considerable experience in grape culture in Europe, as well as some here, we believe.—Ed.]

Editor American Agriculturist:

In answer to your first question, "Will the main stem of the imported grape be likely to suffer during Winter, if left unprotected, provided the top or bearing branches are under cover?" I will reply. The grapevine will grow unprotected where the peach tree does not require protection. In this country the North and North-east winds are very cold in the Winter season, but the unprotected main stem of the grape-vine will not suffer so much from these winds as by the late frosts in the Spring, when the sap has commenced to circulate. The main stem is then softer and more sensible to frost. Changeable weather, and rain, and alternation of warm and freezing weather does more injury than simply the Winter's severe cold.

"If protection is necessary, will a covering of straw bound on be sufficient?"

Of all protections, I consider straw "bound on" as one of the worst. It is more disadvantageous or noxious than useful. When in Winter the straw becomes wet by the thawing of snow, the water penetrates to the main stem. The air is kept out, and the vine will not dry in a long time. It will consequently remain moist, and suffer much, and this will be especially the case when freezing weather ensues, as is so often the case in our changeable climate.

It is always better to leave the main stem free until the weather becomes very severe, when the lower part of it may be covered with long stable manure. This should not be done until the earth is a little frozen. Dry leaves are not so good as the long manure, because they are liable to be blown away by the heavy winds.

In Spring, the covering, whatever it be, should not be taken away too early, for one night's frost after its removal may destroy all hope of a crop for the season.

Omitting for the present an answer to the third question for want of suitable drawings, and a lack of time, I will say in general that it depends upon the quality or variety of the foreign grape, and upon the culture and the dressing of the stem, whether the head branches will bear at a distance of four to ten feet, or even ten to eighty feet, as well and more equally than nearer the root.

F. C. G.
Nanuet, N. Y., Sept. 12, 1856.

BLIGHT CURED BY SULPHUR.

On Thursday, June 12th, the vines in a vinery here appeared affected by a sudden blight, (the leaves shrivelled and burnt as by a sirocco,) so severely as to promise the eventual total failure in perfecting fruit. Sulphur was directly applied without, and after, a syringe washing. This appeared to do little good. Last year this process, although it seemed to check the blight, completely failed in saving any portion of the fruit. Sulphur was then placed on the floor and burnt, and this seemed to arrest partially the progress of the blight. Then the thought occurred of sprinkling water on the heated flue, and sulphur upon that. This caused a health-giving vapor to rise, but it was found that the water poured upon the hot flue dried up too rapidly. The thought then came into the mind of the experimenter to sprinkle the water, and next the sulphur upon the cold flue, and then gradually to warm the flue. This, along with keeping up sufficient temperature, has been found to answer (as far as yet appears) perfectly. Each night this method has been followed, and now new leaves are growing, and the whole crop looks beautifully healthy. From this, may not the inference be drawn that the evil effects of blight of all descriptions and in all places—in trees, on walls or standards, and in hop grounds—may, by timely and proper employment of water, fire and sulphur, be in a great part checked, mitigated, or altogether avoided; although, of course, their application *sub Dio* may be a matter of difficulty, and prove of less virtue? The virulence of that exceedingly curious, novel distemper, which so (almost) unaccountably last year affected the otherwise ordinarily little excitable minds of many worthy hop factors — sulphurophobia —would probably also yield to the gentle "alterative" thus humbly presented for exhibition; their main cause of dislike to the application of sulphur to the foliage of the hop being, in great part, obviated by its taking the form here mentioned. It is for you to say whether the individual who has apparently saved my vine crop deserves especial notice for his ingenuity. He is a laborer in my employment; his name Samuel James.—[Gard. Chron., 1856.

HOW TO RAISE CURRANTS.

We have been most successful in propagating currants from cuttings by setting them in the Spring. For transplanting those already rooted, the latter part of this month is preferable. Still, however, many think cuttings may be set just as well in Autumn as in Spring, and that time is gained by doing so. There is one thing in favor of this season. If they fail, they may be replanted in the Spring. The cuttings are not costly, and there is little extra labor even if two plantings chance to be required. In June last we gathered some hints from the experience of Mr. Henry Funnell, of Huntington, Long Island, which we give now. At that time he sent us a specimen of what is considered a new variety of the currant, though it so much resembles the cherry currant described last year, that we think they are one and the same variety. One of the stems contained twenty-three berries, and weighed a little over half an ounce (two hundred and fifty grains). The flavor is fine, and the pulp quite solid.

Five years since Mr. F. discovered in a neighbor's garden a few bushes bearing what appeared to be a decidedly superior fruit, and he procured several cuttings and set them out in his own garden. This was done early in the Spring. The ground was spaded nearly two feet deep. Soil a heavy loam. No manure was added then nor since; but they have been freely watered from time to time throughout the year with the liquid collected in a barrel standing under the sink spout. The soap-suds on washing days are added to the contents of the barrel. The chamber slops (urine) are not put upon the currant bushes, but mixed with a portion of the suds and applied to fruit trees, chiefly the peach and pear.

Great care is taken to keep the ground mellow and clear from weeds. It is well dug up around the roots every spring, the subsequent hoeings being mainly upon the surface.

Mr. F. lays great stress upon pruning. The first year the cuttings, which were twelve inches long, were set into the ground eight or nine inches, leaving but three or four inches above the surface. All the buds were rubbed off before planting, except the four upper ones. During the first Summer, these buds sent out side-shoots eight to twelve inches in length. In April of the following year, these shoots were cut down to within two or three inches of the crown or head of the old stem. Similar pruning was followed the two succeeding Springs, the object being to secure a well-formed tree. The method pursued by Mr. F. gives a wide base, there being ten to twelve leading branches which shoot out a few inches in every direction from the main stalk, and from the ends of these upright stems are permitted to rise. It will be seen from this description that the tree is hollow, so that a common pail can be set down in the middle opening between the branches. From the upright main branches, side shoots are continually thrown out. These are kept trimmed back to within two or three inches of the upright, and upon the spurs thus formed is found the best fruit. This plan not only gives beauty of shape, but it also admits the air and sun's rays into the centre of the bush, the good effects of which are seen in the superior quality of the fruit.

Since writing the above, Mr. Funnell has kindly offered us a specimen of a ready pruned tree for our own garden. We shall be happy to receive it and put it where it may be seen by any one having the opportunity to do so.—[Ed.

DESTROYING INJURIOUS INSECTS.

Those who were readers of this Journal prior to 1855, doubtless remember several interesting articles over the signature of G. These were written by Townsend Glover, Esq. For some time past Mr. G. has been engaged in connection with the Agricultural Department at Washington, in making investigations upon the various destructive insects, and we anticipate many valuable results from his labors. We give here an extract from one of his communications to the United States Agricultural Society.—Ed.

A close study of the habits and transformations of any one of the pernicious insects (ball worm, wheat midge, caterpillar, &c.) by the practical and intelligent farmer would prove not only a source of great pleasure, as leading him to a keener sense of the beauteous and wonderful works of Nature, as exemplified in the singular transformations insects undergo before they assume the perfect or fly state, but also a source of great profit, as by experimenting upon them in all the stages of their existence, he might perchance discover some practical method by which their extermination could be effected. Indeed, it is absolutely necessary that a farmer should be able to recognize the insects that destroy his crops, in all their various and wonderful transformations, before any effectual remedy can be applied; as in one stage of their life they may be suffered to live and enjoy themselves, nay, even sometimes be protected, whilst in another stage we persecute and destroy them by every means in our power. For example, the beautiful butterfly of the *papilio asterias.* Any humane and kind-hearted farmer, unversed in entomology, who should see his children chasing and killing the beautiful black and yellow spotted butterfly that was flitting joyously over his vegetable garden, in the spring or early summer, apparently leading a life of mere harmless pleasure, would, no doubt, reprove them for wantonly destroying such a pretty, harmless insect; and yet, if the truth was known, this pretty and much to be pitied insect is the parent of all those nauseous smelling green and black spotted worms that later in the season destroy his parsley, celery, parsnips and carrots. Yet by merely crushing the parent fly at one blow early in the season, before it has deposited its eggs, he would be spared the vexation of either seeing his plants devoured and seed destroyed, or having the disagreeable task of picking off, one by one, some hundreds of caterpillars later in the season. This fact will be more apparent when I state how incredibly fast some insects multiply, especially in the warmer climate of the South, where there is little frost to destroy vegetable life, and there are several generations in one season. Dr. John Gamble, of Tallahassee, Florida, assisted by myself, dissected a female ball-worm moth or miller, (an insect which, in the caterpillar state, is most destructive to cotton,) and we discovered a mass of eggs, which, when counted, amounted, at the least calculation, to five hundred, duly hatched, for the first generation, say one half males, the rest females; the second generation, if undisturbed, would amount to 125,000, and the third be almost incalculable.

Now, these mother flies are not very numerous early in the season, owing to the birds devouring them, the rigor of winter, and various other accidental causes, and if practical means were found to destroy them as early in the spring as possible, the immense ravages of the second and third generations might be prevented. In one female (œceticus) case or hangworm, so destructive to the shade trees, I counted nearly eight hundred eggs, although the specimen was but small. Now were all these cases taken from every infected tree in the winter, when they can most easily be seen, owing to the fall of the leaf, and then immediately burned, the trees would be comparatively free the next season; and by following this plan for one or two years more, the work growing gradually less and less, the insect might finally be exterminated, inasmuch as the female never leaves her case, but forms her nest of eggs inside; and yet these noxious pests are suffered year by year to increase, when so little trouble would destroy them. Other insects, again, have other habits, which, if fully known, would likewise lead to their destruction.

The Beauty of Trees.—A tree, undoubtedly is one of the most beautiful objects in nature. Airy and delicate in its youth, luxuriant and majestic in its prime, venerable and picturesque in its old age, it constitutes, in its various forms, sizes, and developments, the greatest charm and beauty of the earth in all countries. The most varied outline of surface, the finest combination of picturesque materials, would be comparatively tame and spiritless without the inimitable accompaniment of foliage. Let those who have passed their whole time in a richly-wooded country—whose daily visions are deep, leafy glens, forest-clad hills, and plains luxuriously shaded, transport themselves for a moment to the desert, where but a few stunted bushes raise their heads above the earth, or those wild steppes, where the eye wanders in vain for some "leafy garniture"—where the sun strikes down with parching heat, or the wind sweeps over with unbroken fury—and they, may perhaps, estimate by contrast their beauty and value.

SORGHUM, OR CHINESE SUGAR CANE—ORANGE WATERMELON—DISTRIBUTION OF SEEDS.

In the latter part of May, we sowed a row of Sorghum, on a rather poor soil, putting a little finely ground bone in the drill. After the plants were up they were watered with sink slops, from the reservoir described in our June number. The plants looked sickly at first, but three or four waterings started them into rapid growth, and they are now 12 to 15 feet in hight. Though standing within six inches of each other, they are about the size of large corn-stalks. The joints are about one foot in length, with a long slim leaf at the termination of each. The stalks are quite uniform—resembling a cane fishing pole—and are terminated at the top with an erect brush and seed, much like that of the common broom-corn. The pith is very solid, and to our taste about as sweet as the West India Sugar Cane. A full grown stalk can be seen at our office.

We have some hopes that the Sorghum, may yet be found valuable for making sugar. Whether this be the case or not, it seems quite probable that it will be found profitable to sow thickly as food for cattle. We shall experiment further with it. As we have about forty stalks nearly ripened, we hope to have a quantity of seed to distribute to our subscribers in small parcels.

ORANGE WATER MELON.

We have this summer *proved* the superior quality of this melon, and are saving all the seed to be distributed.

DISTRIBUTION OF SEEDS.

Both of the above, and some others will be ready to go out in January, at the time of renewing subscriptions. Any of our readers who may have choice seeds of any kind, which they are disposed to scatter free of charge, will confer a favor upon their brethren elsewhere, by sending them to this office, and we will cheerfully undertake the labor of forwarding them to applicants. The mode of distribution will be announced hereafter.—Ed.

Article on Pears.—We have had in preparation a long article on pears, but owing to several unexpected interruptions it was not completed in season for this number. It will not be too late for the November issue which will be ready by the first of the month if not before.

Strawberries.—"Another Young friend George," sent us a good article on Strawberries, but it would be most too late for the season now. We hope to hear from him again on this subject next spring, and on other seasonable topics at all times.

Shade Trees.—These will come in for a full description in our next issue.

FALL TREATMENT OF ASPARAGUS.

As soon as the heavy frosts come to kill the tops, they should be cut and removed to the stye, or to the compost heap. The surface of the beds, which has become hard, and perhaps weedy, should now be thoroughly scarified with the hoe, or forked over, taking care not to injure the crowns. About the last of the month, spread on a heavy coating of stable manure, at least a half cord to every two square rods. The rains will carry down its fertilizing properties to the roots, and give them great strength and vigor for an early start in the Spring. If near the shore, where marsh mud is accessible, a coating of this, one inch thick, in addition to the manure, will do good service. We have also found it an excellent plan to cover the beds with sea-weed or old hay during the winter. The roots keep active longer before the ground closes up; the ground does not freeze so deep, and starts sooner in the Spring. The mulch of course needs to be removed as soon as the Winter is over. Asparagus is a gross feeder, and can be had in its perfection only by high manuring. This we believe will pay, whether the bed have been thoroughly prepared or not.—Ed.

THE RHUBARB

plantation needs much the same treatment, and so far as our observation goes, is as much benefitted by salt as asparagus. It would probably be killed sooner by an excessive application, but it thrives well on a compost of marsh muck, and comes out strong and vigorous from a Winter mulch of sea-weed. Old plants should be dug around, and the earth removed a foot in depth, and the place supplied with rich compost, or stable manure. The roots should be divided every third year. Larger and more vigorous stalks will be produced.

New Test for the Strawberry.—At a late meeting of Strawberry tasters, amateurs, a decision as to the best variety not having been agreed upon, it was proposed to leave the question to the birds. A careful watch was set, and it was discovered that they gave a preference to Burr's New Pine, and we are not sure but they have good reasons for their preference.—Horticulturist.

We seldom, if ever, solicit poetry or rhyme, that order of writing being too etherial for a plain practical journal, such as this aims to be. Again, "Poets" are among the most sensitive people in the world, and we should be in hot water continually if we attempted to make selections, and did not publish everything sent us. But we gave Indian Corn a hearing last month, and as the Cauliflower has never been poetized to our knowledge, we conclude to print the following as received, asking due credit to the Agriculturist for being a pioneer in bringing to life the poetic merits of a member of the cabbage tribe, and allowing the writer full credit for the style of the cantata.—Ed.

The Cauliflower.

With all the pageantry of phrase
  Some eulogize the Lily,
And some the Rose and Tulip praise
  With affectation silly.

But oh! the flower of *my* choice
  Boasts use, with beauty's power,
I'll eulogise with heart and voice
  The charming Cauliflower.

Thy snowy charms, maturing quick,
  Can not be much too big;
With butter drawn (not made too thick)
  Is luscious with roast pig!

Oh tender flower much approved
  Gem of the festal hour,
My lips to press thy charms are moved,
  Soft, luscious Cauliflower.

The garden's pride, the garden's boast
  Of culinary glory,
Long may'st thou grace the boil'd and roast,
  And shine in future story.

Oh! in seasons dry and hot
  Ne'er may'st thou want a shower,
Nor I thy bard to fill my pot,
  A thumping Cauliflower.

Cypress Hills, L. I. F. Bond.
September, 15, 1859.

HASTY PUDDING—HOW TO MAKE IT.

A number of correspondents have thanked us for "bringing out" the Hasty Pudding Poem in our last number, where they saw it for the first time. It was not so profusely nor so modernly illustrated as in Harper, but we only desired to exhibit a real old-fashioned earthen bowl and pewter spoon, which we doubt not was more familiar to most persons than any of the modern fixings would be. If any have failed to read this poem, let them turn back and read it now.

Two subscribers ask us for the best didirections for making hasty pudding or "mush." We answer, first, that corn meal should always be coarsely ground. The finest meal should be as coarse grained as mustard seed. Fresh corn should be ground at least as often as once in three or four weeks. The meal should be kept in a *dry*, cool room. Second: Our favorite mush is not a very *hasty* pudding. It is made thus: For two quarts of pudding put three quarts of water and one tablespoonful of salt into a kettle and heat it until quite warm. Then take out one quart of water and stir into it Indian meal enough to make a thick batter, so stiff that it will scarcely run. Work it over with the ladle or large wooden spoon until not the smallest lump remains, and then return it to the kettle where the other two quarts of water will by this time be boiling rapidly. It must now be kept boiling briskly with constant stirring for *not less than twenty minutes*, and until it has boiled down so much as to be hard to stir. Nothing but constant stirring from the bottom will prevent it from burning or scorching, the least degree of which will spoil the delicious taste.

We have eaten hasty pudding in hundreds of families, but not one in ten cook it enough. The taste is usually too much like that of a Journey Cake ("Johnny Cake") which has only been in the oven long enough to heat it up to the boiling point. Such pudding usually has to be "warmed over" the next morning for breakfast, before it is cooked to be palatable. We are quite sure that hasty pudding would become a much greater favorite among all classes of people, if our good housewives would learn *to cook it more, and not scorch it while doing so.* It is a wholesome, healthful food for all classes of persons, and especially for children and aged persons whose masticators are not grown, or are grown and gone.

Though our plan of wetting the meal secures its freedom from lumps, the shorter method of stirring the meal directly into the kettle will answer nearly as well, if the cooking and stirring be continued long enough. A lady to whom we read the above, says: A better plan is to heat the whole of the water first, then take out a part, and add the meal to the remainder. When it is well mashed, return enough of the water to reduce it to a thin batter, so that it can be boiled without burning. She also adds, that a better plan still is to cook it in a "farina boiler" where the pudding can be cooked down almost dry, or as long as may be desired, without any trouble of stirring, or any risk of scorching.

FRIED PUDDING.

There are few persons who do not relish good "fried pudding and syrup" or molasses, for breakfast, though some find it indigestible, and others have never been treated to a *good* specimen, and therefore have not learned to appreciate this dish. The fault in both of these cases is with the cook. If literally fried in fat, it is like *all* other "fried" food, quite indigestible. If the pudding be not well cooked at first, and is then only "warmed over," it will have a raw taste. But if cooked thoroughly in the manner recommended above, and then warmed *through* with only grease enough upon the griddle to keep it from sticking, it will prove both palatable and digestible.

The best fried pudding we have tasted was prepared by cooking thoroughly as above; then poured into a square dish to cool, after which it was cut into cakes three-fourths of an inch in thickness, and the pieces dipped into a well beaten egg before frying.

We have thus given some of our "notions" about cooking hasty pudding. We shall be obliged to our lady readers for other hints, and also for a chapter on making other kinds of Indian puddings.—[Ed.

GREEN CORN CAKE.

We have feasted during the last month on a most delicious dish, prepared as follows: Twelve ears of uncooked green corn (Stowell's evergreen) are grated finely. There are then stirred into this two tablespoonfuls of flour, one egg previously well beaten, one teaspoonful of salt, and a very little sugar. The whole is then baked full an hour. It is good hot or cold, with or without butter. For sweet corn, very little if any sugar is required. For other kinds, more sugar may be added. If any reader of the Agriculturist has a better preparation, we should be glad to get it for publication.—[Ed.

Green Corn Omelet.—The following preparation is said to be excellent: Grate the boiled green corn from twelve ears; beat up five eggs, stir them with the corn, season with pepper and salt, and fry the mixture brown, browning the top with a hot shovel. If fried in small cakes with a little flour and milk stirred in to form a batter, it is very nice.

Baked Tomatoes.—Tomatoes peeled and baked on a flat dish, as we bake apples, or even baked without peeling, and when done, seasoned with salt, butter and pepper, is, we think, the most luscious way of preparing this excellent fruit.

Creamed Pine Apple.—Cut two fine large ripe pine apples into four pieces each without paring; stand them up successively on a large dish and with a coarse grater grate the flesh clean from the rind; and make it very sweet by mixing in plenty of white sugar; whip to a stiff froth a quart of rich cream, and heap it high on the top of the grated pine apple; or you may serve it up in saucers, first filling each saucer with the grated fruit, and then putting on a portion of the cream.

SOME THOUGHTS ON ORDER.

BY LIBBIE.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

We are told that the love of order is one of the most pleasing traits in our sex; that this is one of the characteristics of female character; that it is more prominent in woman than in man; and that woman has an intuitive perception of neatness and grace. Without arrogantly putting forth any such claim for ourselves, we may well be pleased with the compliment thus offered, and we should do all in our power to merit and retain the good opinion thus voluntarily awarded to us by the sterner sex.

This trait is certainly a pleasing one wherever found, and when its opposite is encountered, especially in the female sex, an unpleasant feeling usually arises, which, without great caution, will generally merge imperceptibly into dislike. It is therefore a matter of the highest importance to those in whom this quality is deficient, either naturally or from education, as it often is even in people of fine talents and high moral and social attributes, to guard well their conduct when with others, lest in trifles they render themselves disagreeable.

Our happiness and that of those around us depend more frequently upon the little things of life than upon events of far greater magnitude. I give in illustration a little circumstance which recently came under my own observation, and which perhaps prompted this article.

A lady was upon a visit at the house of my friend, whom I will call Emma. She was busily engaged in making a dress, and had her work-table pretty well crowded. She asked Emma to set the bird-cage down upon the table beside her, but Emma remarked that the table was already full. "Oh, I'll throw these things upon the floor!" Emma quietly remarked that "there was no room for them there," and walked away. Now some easy sort of people would call Emma "very particular," and doubtless her visitor mentally anathematized her as a "whimsical old maid;" and perhaps she was unreasonable, but she had been vexed by the daily careless habits of her friend, and was little inclined to humor her longer, though she was in other respects an agreeable acquaintance, well educated and intelligent, and to one meeting her casually, she would have appeared a very companionable and entertaining young lady. But her lack of order and neatness betrayed itself to all those with whom she daily associated.

I am aware that there is an extreme of methodical neatness, which is still more unpleasant than the "shiftlessness" so repulsive to prim "Miss Ophelias." What a painful feeling of restraint creeps over us as we enter our neighbor's dwelling, where the chairs always sit in stiff rows around the wall, and the books are piled up in prim pyramids on the table—where the broom and dusting-brush are the insignia of power and warfare, and an innocent spider would not for his life dare to show his head. The mistress of such a house always keeps herself and every one around her in torment by her jealous fear that people will fail in their duty to her door-mat and scraper, and that her immaculate carpets will suffer by the presence of an infinitesimal portion of dust.

We never feel at home in such a parlor, where the very pictures gaze down upon us in blank astonishment, if we presume to disarrange a stately stack of books, or have the audacity to throw open more than one shutter. One extreme is as bad as the other, and it is in this, as in every thing else, that we find the medium to be the safest and happiest course.

A neatly kept sitting-room presents innumerable attractions to the home circle, and if sisters wish their brothers to spend their leisure hours at home, let them render that home attractive; let a spirit of neatness pervade within doors, and every thing have a proper place; and when nightfall comes, instead of spending the evening in the idle bar-room, they will prefer the quiet fireside. They know just where they will find a favorite book, and the hours, cheered by a sister's kindly word or smile, will pass pleasantly and profitably. Strangers and those who casually join the circle will feel the pervading influence, and oft-times carry away with them a resolution that they will thereafter adorn and beautify other homes. Thus one's influence may extend to others than her own family, and ultimately be the means that shall reform and happify many a household.

Order and method in daily business argues mental precision and discipline, and as all the various duties of life are merely preparing agents, disciplining our mental nature for a more elevated and exalted future life, it follows that the nearer we approximate to a perfect performance of these duties, so much nearer are we to mental and spiritual perfection.

St. Johnsville, N. Y.

Do Good.—Thousands of men breathe, move and live—pass off the stage of life, and are heard of no more. Why? They do not a particle of good in the world, and none were blessed by them, none could point to them as the instrument of their redemption; not a word they spoke could be recalled, and they perished; their light went out in darkness, and they were not remembered more than the insect of yesterday. Will you thus live and die, oh man immortal? Live for something. Do good, and leave behind you a monument of virtue that the storm of time can never destroy. Write your name in kindness, love, and mercy on the hearts of thousands who come in contact with you year by year; you will never be forgotten. No, your name, your deeds, will be as legible on the hearts you leave behind, as the stars on the brow of evening. Good deeds will shine as the stars of heaven.

"WHIPPING JACKETS."

We often recall many little incidents that occurred during the first summer we passed at the "district school;" but nothing made a more lasting impression of the superior wisdom and sagacity of our "school marm," than her method of punishing boys, and even girls, who were caught quarrelling or disputing. The culprits, each supplied with a good beech whip, were arraigned upon the floor before the whole school, and compelled to finish their quarrel by giving each other a sound dressing. We then thought, however, and still think the "adjustment" hardly fair, for either of the forced duellists who failed to use his whip with sufficient vigor was sure to get a double dose, as the "school marm" always assisted the more active of the two, by dealing an extra blow to the one who slackened his efforts either from inability, or from kindness to his antagonist. We have since then often heard of a case of "whipping jackets," between two boys of a larger growth, where there was no unjust interference from the third party. The story runs thus:

An editor "out West" published an article derogatory to the character of two village rowdies, who were unknown to each other, but both of whom resolved to horsewhip the offending knight of the quill. So while seated in his "sanctum," one of them, to whom he was personally unknown, called, having in his hand a regular "black snake," and inquired for the editor. Thinking discretion the better part of valor, he informed him that he would step out and send the editor in. Closing the door behind him, he met upon the stairs bully No. 2, (fully armed like No. 1,) and to his inquiry for the editor, he was directed to find him in the sanctum. It only needs to be added that through a crack in the partition the real editor enjoyed the novel sight of seeing the two worthies administer to each other a sounder flogging than they had probably ever received while under the tutelage of "our school marm." Having exhausted their strength, they both left, each fully satisfied that he had given the offending editor his just due.—[Ed.

THAT "PROFESSORSHIP."

From the many recent letters addressed to "Prof. Judd," and the liberty taken with our name in the exchanges, it appears to have "got round" that we were recently *titled* by a "chartered" Society of Connecticut *farmers.* The "Professor" handle has often been appended to our name during several years past by educated men and sundry associations (with how much justice it is not for us to decide,) but we have uniformly persisted in thinking that the good old title of Mr. was sufficiently distinctive. But we fear we shall have to "succumb," after reading the closing part of the following extract from an editorial report of the Litchfield County Agricultural Society's Annual gathering. The Homestead is the Official Agricultural Journal of Connecticut.

(*From the Homestead of Sept. 25th, 1856.*)

"The Annual Address by Orange Judd, Esq., Editor of the American Agriculturist, was listened to by an attentive and delighted audience. Mr. Judd gave a plain and practical exposition of the principles of vegetable physiology, showing the necessity of *thorough* and *deep tillage* to obtain the best results in agriculture. The cultivation of fruit and other topics occupied a brief space, and we hope all will put in practice some of the *practical* labors which were detailed. We regret our inability to report in full this excellent address or an abstract of it. Mr. Judd showed himself a practical man, whose practice is governed by sound theory. On being introduced to the audience, the President, Mr. Robbins Battell, gave him the title *Professor;* this was disclaimed by Mr. Judd, who preferred the more modest title of *Mr.* or at most of *Farmer.* But at the close of the address the audience seemed to think that though Mr. Judd did not profess a right to the title when he entered, at least he should have a right to it when he went away, for, upon motion of one of their members, in consideration of the instruction given in the address and in the columns of the *Agriculturist,* the title of Professor, with the guarantee of all the rights, honors, etc., pertaining thereto, was unanimously awarded him, and the usual vote of thanks was passed. *Professor Judd must accept the title and honors, or Litchfield County Farmers will have reason to feel the slight. And, pray tell, what corporation has a better right or more complete power to confer such a title?*"

Virtue.—The creations of the sculptor may molder into dust; the wealth of the bard may wither; the throne of conquerors may be shivered by an opposing power into atoms; the fame of the warrior may no longer be hymned by the recording minstrels, the hopes may be disappointed, but that which hallows the cottage and sheds a glory around the palace—virtue—shall never decay. It is written on the pillars of Heaven, and reflected down to earth.

The Agricultural Exhibitions.—These are progressing finely. No one will of course ask us to publish descriptive reports. Should we undertake to do so a hundred pages would not suffice. On page 297, will be found a list of the times and places of those yet to be held. The four most prominent exhibitions hereabouts, are those of the National Agricultural Society at Philadelphia, the cattle Show of the American Institute in this city, the New-York State Exhibition at Watertown, and the Connecticut State show at New-Haven. The official announcements of the arrangements for the first three appear on page 308. We are sure they will all be very good.

New Jersey Marl.—We see by our advertising columns that arrangements are made for furnishing other parts of the country with this fertilizer which has done so much to improve the soils of Monmouth County, N. J. It is of course yet to be settled by experiment, whether it will pay to carry the article to a great distance, but we hope much from it.

About the Pictures.—We are planning for a considerable number of valuable and interesting illustrative cuts in our next volume, and shall have a few in the remaining two numbers of this, if we get those of a right character We have on hand hundreds of cuts of implements, animals, &c., but can not spare space for any but those really instructive or at least pleasing.

A. S. W., Dover, N. H.—Better give the Willow and Dioscorea a "wide berth" until they promise more favorably than now. Apples, or the small fruits, are safer investments. See August number.—Ed.

DECEASED, September 1st or 2d, in Kansapolis, (formerly Whitfield City,) Kansas Territory, Mr. OZIAS JUDD, formerly of Lockport, N. Y., (father of the Editor of this paper.)

Imperfect intelligence of the above event reached us on the 20th ult. Painful circumstances connected with the time, place, and manner of death, have much disturbed our recent labors. We have also thrown upon us, as an elder member of a large family, an unusual amount of care and responsibility. We therefore beg the indulgence of several correspondents whose letters must remain unanswered for the present; and we also ask our readers to overlook any deficiency in this number. Several articles in preparation, on trees, fruits, &c., appropriate to the work of this month, have been necessarily deferred until the next issue.

CROWDED AGAIN.

Our Advertising friends have crowded us into narrow quarters again with their favors. The only trouble is, that they come in unexpectedly at so late a date, that we have no time to enlarge the size of the paper. Our readers, however, will find much useful intelligence in these columns, and they will do well to look through the whole. As the business season is nearly over, we presume we shall not have to apologize again.

There is one interesting feature in our advertisements, viz.: we employ no soliciting agents, as do many other papers. On the contrary, the advertisers choose this journal of their own accord, and those who began with us many months ago are foremost in engaging space in advance. We suppose they find it pays, and why should it not? Few Agricultural journals now have a larger, more wide-spread circulation, and that, too, among a highly intelligent class of readers.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

By the column or half column, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.

☞ Business Notices 20 cents a line.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS.

C. M. SAXTON & CO.,

140 FULTON-STREET, NEW-YORK,

PUBLISH THE FOLLOWING BOOKS FOR THE COUNTRY,

☞ **And will send them, Free of Postage, to any part of the United States, upon receipt of Price.**

1.	The Stable Book—the best work on the Horse	$1 00
2.	The Horse's Foot, with Directions How to Keep it Sound; paper 25 cents, cloth	50
3.	Brown's American Bird Fancier; paper 25 cents, cloth	50
4.	Dadd's American Cattle Doctor; cloth	1 00
5.	Dana's Muck Manual; cloth	1 00
6.	Dana's Prize Essay on Manures,	25
7.	Stockhardt's Chemical Field Lectures	1 00
8.	Blake's Farmer at Home	1 25
9.	Buist's American Flower Garden Directory	1 25
10.	Buist's Family Kitchen Gardener	75
11.	Norton's Scientific and Practical Agriculture	60
12.	Johnston's Catechism of Agricultural Chemistry (for Schools)	25
13.	Johnston's Elements of Agricultural Chemistry and Geology	1 00
14.	Johnston's Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry and Geology	1 25
15.	Downing's Landscape Gardening	3 50
16.	Fesseaden's Complete Farmer and Gardener	1 25
17.	Fessenden's American Kitchen Gardener; cloth	50
18.	Nash's Progressive Farmer	60
19.	Richardson's Domestic Fowls	25
20.	Richardson on the Horse—Varieties, Breeding, &c.	25
21.	Richardson on the Diseases and Management of the Hog	25
22.	Richardson on the Destruction of the Pests of the Farm	25
23.	Richardson on the Hive and Honey Bee	25
24.	Milburn & Stevens on the Cow and Dairy Husbandry	25
25.	Skinner's Elements of Agriculture	25
26.	Topham's Chemistry Made Easy; for use of Farmers	25
27.	Allen's Treatise on the Culture of the Grape	1 00
28.	Allen on the Diseases of Domestic Animals	75
29.	Allen's American Farm Book	1 00
30.	Allen's Rural Architecture	1 25
31.	Pardee on the Cultivation of the Strawberry, &c.	60
32.	Pedder's Farmer's Land Measurer	50
33.	Phelps' Bee-Keepert Chart	25
34.	Guenon's Treatise on Milch Cows; paper 38 cts., cloth	63
35.	Gunn's Domestic Medicine—a book for every married man and woman	3 00
36.	Randall's Sheep Husbandry	1 25
37.	Youatt, Randall, and Skinner's Shepherd's Own Book	2 00
38.	Youatt on the Breed and Management of Sheep	75
39.	Youatt on the Horse	1 25
40.	Youatt, Martin, and Stevens on Cattle	1 25
41.	Youatt, and Martin, on the Breeds and Management of the Hog	75
42.	Munn's Practical Land Drainer	50
43.	Stephens' Book of the Farm, complete, 450 Illustrations	4 00
44.	The American Architect; or, Plans for Country Dwellings	6 00
45.	Thaer, Shaw, and Johnson's Principles of Agriculture	2 00
46.	Smith's Landscape Gardening, Parks and Pleasure Grounds	1 25
47.	Weeks on the Honey-Bee; paper 25 cents, cloth	50
48.	Wilson Cultivation of Flax	25
49.	Miuer's American Bee-Keeper's Manual	1 00
50.	Quinby's Mysteries of Bee-Keeping	1 00
51.	Cottage and Farm Bee-Keeper	50
52.	Elliott's American Fruit Grower's Guide	1 25
53.	The American Florist's Guide	75
54.	Every Lady her own Flower Gardener; paper 25 cts., cloth	50
55.	The American Rose Culturist; paper 25 cents, cloth	50
56.	Hoare on the Cultivation of the Vine	50
57.	Chorlton's Cold Grapery, from direct American Practice	50
58.	Saxton's Rural Hand Books, 3 vols.	3 75
59.	Bemcnt's Rabbit Fancier; paper 25 cents, cloth	50
60.	Reemelin's Vine-Dresser's Manual	50
61.	Neil's Fruit, Flower, and Vegetable Gardener's Companion	1 00
62.	Browne's American Poultry Yard	1 00
63.	Browne's Field Book of Manures	1 25
64.	Hooper's Dog and Gun	50
65.	Skillful Housewife; paper	25
66.	Chorlton's Grape Grower's Guide; paper 50 cts., cloth	60
67.	White's Gardening for the South	1 25
68.	Eastwood's Manual for Cultivating the Cranberry	50
69.	Johnson's Dictionary of Modern Gardening	1 50
70.	Persoz on the Culture of the Vine	50
71.	American Agriculturist, first 10 vols.	12 50
72.	Boussingault's Rural Economy	1 25
73.	Thompson's Food of Animals; paper 50 cents, cloth	75
74.	Richardson on Dogs—their Origin, Varieties, &c.; paper 25 cents; cloth	50
75.	Liebig's Familiar Letters to Farmers on Chemistry; paper 25 cents, cloth	50

117n108

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 8- 30

WHERE TO SEND THE BOYS.

There is, perhaps, no more difficult question for many parents to decide, than where to place their SONS, so that while they are developing and improving their mental faculties systematically and harmoniously, they may at the same time be surrounded with genial moral influences.

The more intelligent and far-seeing parent will also look after proper *physical* culture, believing that a *sound mind can only exist in a sound body.*

Some of the requisites of a proper school for young lads are the following:

1. One located in a country place, away from the contaminating influences of a city or large town.

2. One of moderate size, where each pupil can be under the immediate care of the principal instructor.

3. One surrounded with ample grounds, where each pupil may have opportunity for out-door exercise, and cultivate a taste for rural pleasures.

4. One under the care of a *skillful*, *diligent*, and *interesting* INSTRUCTOR, who is "apt to teach," and who is naturally fitted to exercise a kind and parental influence over those placed under his care.

That there are such Schools there is no doubt, and it behooves every parent to search for the *very best* when he sends forth his children from his own immediate care.

Among those Schools of this class, it is believed that there are few possessing more requisites, like those named above than the

DURHAM ACADEMY,

located at DURHAM, Connecticut, twenty miles northeast of New Haven, and six miles south of Middleton, from which place it is most easily reached. The many special advantages possessed by this School can not well be detailed in the limits of a notice like this. It is therefore respectfully asked that persons interested in finding a good School will take the trouble to look into the merits of this one, and afterwards decide for themselves whether it be especially worthy of their patronage.

N. B.—The pupils of this School, when desired, receive instructions both in the Science and Practice of *Agriculture Horticulture*, &c.

The Semi-annual Sessions will commence on the last Wednesday of April and October, respectively.

Board, Tuition, Washing, &c., $200 per annum.

Full particulars may be learned by a personal visit, or by addressing the Principal,

W. R. GRISWOLD, A. B,
Durham, Connecticut.

Circulars may be obtained at the Book Store of Messrs. Blakeman & Birdsey, No. 115 Nassau-street, New Yerk.

References may also be made to

Wm. H. Van Pelt, Esq., 100 Pine-street, New-York;
S. Alpheus Smith, Register's Office, City Hall, Brooklyn;
Andrew Ross, Esq., 129 Maiden Lane, New-York.

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

OFFICE NO. 160 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will be held at Powelton (Philadelphia), on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

Premiums from $25 to $200, amounting in the aggregate to $14,000, will be offered for the various classes of Domestic Animals, Fruits, American Wines, Vegetables, Grains, and Agricultural Implements and Machinery.

A Local Committee at Philadelphia, representing the various branches of industry, has already been appointed to co-operate with the officers of the Society in perfecting arrangements for the Exhibition. *Fifteen Thousand Dollars* have been guaranteed to meet expenses. This material aid, coupled with the excellence of the selected location, and the large amount of premiums offered, induces the expectation that the Exhibition of 1856 will be superior to any of its predecessors.

A GRAND AGRICULTURAL BANQUET,

In which ladies as well as gentlemen will participate, will take place on Friday afternoon, October 10, when distinguished speakers will address the assemblage.

Favorable arrangements with the various railroads for the transportation of stock and other articles are in progress, the terms of which will be given on application to the office.

The List of Entries, the Awards of Premiums, and the Proceedings, will be published in the Journal of the Society for 1856.

The Premium List, with the Regulations and Programme of the Exhibition, will be furnished on application to Mr. John McGowan, Assistant Secretary of the United States Agricultural Society, 160 Chestnut-street, (Rooms of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society,) or by addressing the Secretary at Boston.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, President.
WILLIAM S. KING, Secretary. 116-117n90
September 1, 1856.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE

CATTLE SHOW,

EMBRACING AN EXHIBITION OF CATTLE of all breeds, HORSES, SHEEP, SWINE and POULTRY, will be held at Hamilton Square, in the CITY OF NEW-YORK, on

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY,

The 14th, 15th, and 16th days of October.

Owners and Breeders of Stock, from all parts of the United States, are invited to bring their STOCK to the Exhibition.

All Animals must be on the ground by 10 o'clock A. M., on TUESDAY, the 14th.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Fair of the American Institute will be held at the Crystal Palace, commencing on THURSDAY, the 22d of September, and will positively close on SATURDAY, the 25th of October.

Circulars, with Premium Lists, can be had at the Office of the American Institute, No. 351 Braadway. 116-117n103

KINDERHOOK NURSERY.

THE SUBSCRIBER HAVING PURchased of Henry Snyder the above Nursery, has now ready his Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, which will be sold at very low prices.

Persons applying by mail, enclosing stamp, will receive prompt attention. Address JOHN H. CORNING,
116-117n86 Valatie Post-Office.

FAIR OF N. Y. STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

AT WATERTOWN, *Sept.* 30, *and Oct.* 1, 2, *and* 3.

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE New-York State Agricultural Society will be held at Watertown, Jefferson County, September 30, and October 1, 2, and 3.

The Rome and Watertown, and Potsdam Railroads, will carry stock and articles free, and passengers at half fares. The Lake Ontario Steamboat Company will carry stock, and articles and passengers at half fares. The Hudson River, and New-York Central Roads will carry stock and articles free, with the usual condition of payment when shipped, to be repaid if stock and articles are returned, ownership unchanged, with certificate of Exhibition.

The arrangements at Watertown will be of the most satisfactory character, and provisions for stock upon the ground, such as to enable the owners to have them upon the ground the week previous, and during the Fair, in comfortable quarters, with plenty of food.

☞ The stock and articles passing over the Rome and Watertown Railroad *must be sent the week previous to the Fair*, as the road will, the week of the Fair, be *exclusively devoted to passengers*, and trains will be run as often as may be necessary from Rome and Cape Vincent to Watertown, to transport passengers intending to attend the Exhibition without delay.

A very choice herd of Devon Cattle, and superior Short Horns and Herefords, are already entered for public sale, affording an opportunity never before given at our Fairs of purchasing the very best stock at public sale.

Entries may be made at the office on the show grounds the week previous to the Fair, or with the Secretary at Albany, at any time previous.

B. P. JONSON, Secretary.
AGRICULTURAL ROOMS, ALBANY, Aug. 23, 1856. 116-117n99

PARSONS & CO.,

FLUSHING, NEAR NEW-YORK,

OFFER FOR SALE AN ASSORTMENT of Trees and Plants which they have grown for the use of Amateurs, and have prepared, by frequent transplanting and other modes, for success in moving.

They are of fine size and symmetrical form, and among them will be found

STANDARD APPLES of fine quality;
STANDARD PEARS, PLUMS and CHERRIES;
PEACHES, APRICOTS and NECTARINES, on Plum stocks, and their own roots;
DWARF PEARS, of fine form, and ready for bearing;
GOOSEBERRIES and CURRANTS, strong plants of the best sorts;
RASPBERRIES, Fastolf, Red Antwerp, Fillbasket, and other known sorts;
STRAWBERRIES, of all the best varieties;
NATIVE GRAPES, Isabella, Catawba, and other hardy varieties;
FOREIGN GRAPES; all the well known sorts, with some new varieties of great excellence. These plants are propagated from vines that have borne abundantly for some years, and are known to be correct.

Great care is taken in the cultivation of Fruit Trees, and none but those of the best quality are allowed to be sent out.

THE ORNAMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Contains Trees of all sizes for lawns and streets, including *Elm, Silver, Norway* and *Sycamore Maples, Catalpas, Lindens, Tulip Trees, Cypress, Larch, Willows, Ash, Abele, Oriental Plane*, and all the best varieties of deciduous trees.

It also includes EVERGREENS of fine size for single planting, and of small sizes at low prices, from one foot upwards, for massing; among them are *Norway Spruce, Balsam Fir, Austrian Pine, Hemlock, White Pine, Scotch Fir*, and other varieties.

The best Shrubs include many fine varieties at low prices, for massing, of which the *Rhododendron Catawbiense* can be particularly recommended for its fine evergreen foliage, showy bloom, and perfect hardiness.

The ROSES are cultivated in very large quantity, on their own roots, of all the most rare varieties, and to those who purchase in quantity, will be sold at greatly reduced rates.

THE EXOTIC DEPARTMENT

Contains a fine assortment of CAMELLIAS, grown as bushy, rather than tall, slender plants; and also contains all the well-known varieties of exotic plants, and many rare sorts introduced from Europe annually. These are all carefully grown for those who desire plants of symmetry and beauty.

CATALOGUES of all the departments will be furnished on application. Great care will be taken in packing, and trees will be delivered in New-York, and thence shipped as directed.

117n113

ANDRE LEROY'S NURSERIES AT ANGERS, FRANCE.

MR. ANDRE LEROY, MEMBER OF the principal Horticultural and Agricultural Societies of Europe and America, and lately promoted by the French Emperor to the rank of Knight of the Legion of Honor for the best Nursery products exhibited at the World's Fair held in Paris, begs leave to inform his friends and the public that he has just published his new Catalogue for 1856, being more extensive and complete than that of any similar establishment on the Continent. It contains the prices, &c., of all the Fruit, Ornamental and Evergreen Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Camellias, Stocks, Seedlings, &c., &c., with the necessary information for importing same. His experience in putting up orders for America, and the superior quality of his plants, have been too well appreciated during a period of ten years to require further comment. The Catalogue can be obtained free of charge, on application to the undersigned agent, who will also receive and forward the orders. Mr. A. Leroy is happy in being able to state that his Nurseries were not reached by the inundation which so recently devastated a portion of the district in which they are situated.

ANDRE LEROY, Angers.
F. A. BRUGUIERE, Sole Agent,
117-119u105 No. 138 Pearl-street, New-York.

RHINEBECK NURSERY.

G. SNYDER & CO. OFFER FOR sale this Fall and the coming Spring, a good assortment of all kinds of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Roses and Vines.

Catalogues sent free, and Trees packed and shipped to New York free of charge. Address
117n106 G. SNYDER & CO., Rhinebeck, N. Y.

RUSSIA OR BASS MATS, GUNNY BAGS, TWINES, &c., suitable for Nursery purposes, for sale in lots to suit, by

D. W. MANWARING, Importer,
111-128n110 248 Front-street, New-York.

GREEN SAND MARL OF NEW-JERSEY.

THE NEW JERSEY FERTILIZER COMPANY is now prepared to receive orders for this important Manure. For all lands upon which ashes are beneficial, the MARL is more than a substitute. Professor Cook, in his Annual Report to the Legislature of New-Jersey, says:

"The value of these MARLS is best seen in the rich and highly cultivated district which has been improved (*almost made*) by their use. But it may be interesting to examine the causes of their great value in agriculture, and to compare them with other fertilizers. For example: The potash alone may be taken, at an average, as five per cent. of the whole weight of the MARL; a bushel, when dry, weighs eighty pounds; and in the proportion mentioned, would contain four pounds of potash; This is nearly as much as there is in a bushel of *unleached wood ashes.*"

And again: "It is probable that the great value of the MARL is to be found in the fact that it contains nearly all the substances necessary to make up the ash of our common cultivated plants."

Price delivered on board vessel at the wharves of the Company at Portland Heights, Raritan Bay, New-Jersey, seven cents per bushel.

For further particulars, see Circular, sent *free* of *postage*. Orders for other fertilizers will receive prompt attention. Address either of the undersigned.

CHAS. SEARS, President,
Riceville Post-Office, N. J.
TAPPAN TOWNSEND, Treasurer,
No. 82 Nassau-st., New-York.
GEO. W. ATWOOD, Secretary,
No. 16 Cedar-st., New-York.
117n111

SMALL EVERGREENS,

CHEAPER THAN IMPORTED.

PARSONS & CO.,

FLUSHING, NEAR NEW-YORK,

OFFER FOR SALE—

	per 100.	per 1,000.
NORWAY SPRUCE, 1 year planted	$10	$80
do. 2 do.	12	100
SIBERIAN ARBOR VITÆ, 2 feet	40	
do. 2½ to 3 feet	60	
CEDRUS DEODARA, 2 feet	40	
do. 3 feet	60	
do. 4 feet	80	
ABIES MORINDA, 1½ feet	50	
RHODODENDRON CATAWBIENSE, 1 foot	50	

With many other varieties suitable for the trade, or for planting in masses. 117n114

FRESH IMPORTED HYACINTHS, TULIPS, &C.

THE SUBSCRIBERS HAVE JUST RECEIVED an unusually fine and extensive assortment of Double and Single Hyacinths, Tulips, Polyanthus Narcissus, Double Narcissus, Jonquilles, Crocus, Crown Imperials, Fritillarias, Gladiolus, Irus, Ixias, Lilies, Arums, Anemones, Ranunculus, Colchicums, Snowdrops, Aconites, Oxalis, Lachenalias, Amaryllis, Early Roman Narcissus, to which they invite the attention of amateurs.

Retail Descriptive Catalogues, with directions for culture, furnished applicants enclosing a stamp for return postage.

Dealers and Nurserymen supplied in quantities at as low rates as usually paid for the refuse bulbs from auction.

A good assortment of Hyacinth Glasses, Fancy Crocus Pots, &c., &c.

JAMES M. THORBURN & CO.,
No. 15 John-street, New-York
116-118n89

LINNÆUS RHUBARB BY THE THOUSAND.

PARSONS & CO.,

FLUSHING, NEAR NEW-YORK.

OFFER FOR SALE THIS SUPERIOR variety of the PIE PLANT, at ten dollars per 100, or eighty dollars per 1,000 crowns. 117n112

RASPBERRY PLANTS.

PURE RED ANTWERP OR NORTH RIVER VARIETY.

The Subscriber has a few thousand

SUPERIOR PLANTS,

of the above variety, which he will dispose of at the rate of $4 per hundred or $30 per thousand for the large size. Small plant at half the above prices.

SAMUEL SEYMOUR,
South Norwalk, Conn.
115-117n81

THE CELEBRATED

MILTON RASPBERRY PLANTS

FOR SALE.

THIS, THE BEST OF ALL RASPBERRIES ever cultivated, will produce more fruit per acre than any other variety of RASPBERRY, and will sell for double the amount of money. The yield per acre is as high as seven thousand pint baskets as an ordinary crop from a well cultivated acre, selling in New-York markets at one shilling per basket. Eight hundred and seventy-five dollars for the Berries, and five hundred dollars worth of Plants are frequently sold from the same ground, besides leaving the bills well filled.

In Milton, Ulster County, (where it is made quite an extensive business,) the farmer who cultivates an acre of these Berries considers it equal to all the rest of his farm of a hundred acres. Twenty hills of these Plants will supply a family with fruit during a period of seven weeks, commencing about the 25th of June. To insure success, these Plants should be set from the 10th of October to the 1st of November, or even as early as the 1st of October.

I am also prepared to fill orders for the celebrated MILTON or NEWMAN THORNLESS BLACKBERRY.

Fine Plants, to bear the first year, will be delivered at the following rates: $1 per dozen; $6 per 100. At these rates the Plants will be set when desired. Those wishing to cultivate by the acre will be furnished with plants for from $25 to $30 per 1,000. It takes 7,000 Plants for an acre.

Please address orders to
E. S. WOOLSEY, Milton, N. Y.
117n107

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept 4, 1855.*

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation, (the plants which abound in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address,

WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

N. B.—Plants will be furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs. 111—tfn42

LAWTON (OR NEW-ROCHELLE)

BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

☞ PRICES REDUCED. ☜

The subscribers have become Agents for the sale of the genuine Lawton (or New Rochelle) Blackberry Plants raised by Messrs. George Seymour & Co. of South Norwalk, Conn., and Messrs. Hallock of Milton, N. Y.

We are prepared to receive large orders the coming Fall and Spring, deliverable from the middle of October until the ground freezes, and from the middle of March until the middle of May.

PRICES.

$20 00	per	hundred plants,
11 00	"	fifty "
4 00	"	dozen "
2 25	"	half dozen "

Cost of package for a dozen or half dozen, 12 1-2 cents; for fifty or a hundred, 25 cents—larger packages proportionably less.

The name of the grower, who will *personally* superintend the taking up and packing, with directions for setting and cultivating, will accompany each package.

The plants raised by these parties have been during the last year forwarded to *every part of the country*, and very few instances of failure have occurred, although the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Orders must be accompanied by the cash to ensure fulfillment.

We are permitted to refer to
Hon. Horace Greeley, Editor New-York Tribune;
Orange Judd, Esq., " American Agriculturist;
James J. Mapes, Esq., " Working Farmer;
Solon Robinson, Esq., Agricultural Editor New-York Tribune;
Thomas Drew, Esq., Editor Worcester Spy, Worcester, Mass.;
Stafford Cleveland, Esq., " Yates County Whig;
James S. Gibbons, Esq., No. 10 Wall-street, New-York;
Richard H. Manning, Esq., No. 54 Cortlandt-street.

N. B.—Orders should be given as early in the season as practicable, and will be filled in the order of their reception.

Pamphlets may be obtained of us on application by mail or otherwise, free of charge, giving statement of origin, history and characteristics, &c.

DREW & FRENCH,
Fruit and Produce Dealers,
No. 85 Barclay-street, New-York.
116-118n97

LAWTON

BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

The Subscribers announce to their friends and customers that they have now

OVER SIX ACRES
of the
GENUINE LAWTON
BLACKBERRY PLANTS

under cultivation, and in good condition.

They are therefore prepared to fill large orders the coming FALL and the following SPRING.

PRICES.

$25	per	Hundred plants.
$12 50	per	Fifty plants.
$5	per	Dozen plants.
$2 50	per	Half dozen plants.

N. B. All plants ordered of us will be TAKEN up and PACKED with the GREATEST CARE; and UNDER OUR OWN PERSONAL SUPERVISION.

Of the MANY THOUSANDS sent out by us last year we have heard very few instances of failure, notwithstanding that they have been forwarded to EVERY PART OF THE COUNTRY, and the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Printed directions for setting and cultivating are sent with every package.

GEORGE SEYMOUR & CO.,
South Norwalk, Conn.

THE NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.

☞ PRICE REDUCED. ☜

THE SUBSCRIBER, BEING ONE OF the oldest and most successful cultivators of this superior fruit, offers for sale well-rooted Plants of good size, carefully packed so as to go safely to any part of the world, and deliverable in November, March or April, at

$4 PER DOZEN, OR $18 PER HUNDRED.

Full directions for their cultivation given with each parcel of Plants.

N. B.—This is the same BLACKBERRY which is by some, though erroneously, called the "*Lawton*" BLACKBERRY.

ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.
116 118n102

NEW-ROCHELLE (LAWTON) BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants for sale on liberal terms by the subscriber.

SIMEON LESTER,
New-Rochelle,
Westchester Co., N. Y.

Can apply for information at
J. W. LESTER'S,
No. 161 Water-street.
116-121n104

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS

PRICES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1856.

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING. A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
or at New-Rochelle, N. Y.
111—tfn41

JOHN N. LONGHI,

GARDENER AND FLORIST.

MYRTLE AND YATES AVENUE, BROOKLYN.

TREES, FLOWERS, PLANTS AND SHRUBBERY of all kinds, of the finest descriptions, at the most reasonable prices.

TREES, PLANTS, &c., guaranteed. Gardens laid out in the most improved style. The patronage of the public is solicited

JOHN N. LONGHI,
at DELMONICO'S, 2 South William-st., N. Y.
117n109

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others:

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

PORTABLE CIDER MILL AND PRESS.—This very desirable and approved machine I am now manufacturing in the best manner. It will make more cider than any other press with a given quantity of apples, and in a given time. The cider made from it is of the best quality. Cider can be made with this mill when, and in quantities as required. It is also useful for pressing currants, berries, cheese, butter, &c.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN, No. 189 and 191 Water-st.

FAN MILLS AND CORN SHELLERS. Allen's celebrated Fan Mills, the best in use, of a variety of sizes—made when desired extra heavy with pulley for horse power, Also Grant's superior patent Fan Mill.

Corn Shellers of a variety of patterns for hand or horse power. For sale by

R. L. ALLEN, No. 189 and 191 Water-st.

HORSE POWERS AND THRESHERS.—I have for sale the best and most approved made in the United States, viz:

Allen's celebrated one horse endless chain power.
Emery's Patent do do do
Allen's celebrated two do do do
Emery's patent two do do do
Trimble's one to four horse iron circular power.
Warren's do do do do
Eddy's or Tasslin's superior wood and wrought iron one to six horse circular power.
Hall's or Pitts one to eight horse iron circular power, much used in California and other Western State

THRESHERS.

Allen's or Emery's Threshers with or without Separators.
Eddy's Iron Cylinder Threshers.
Hall's or Pitts and other make Threshers and Cleaners combined, for two to eight horses.

R. L. ALLEN, Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most ervice able manner.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers.

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water st., New-York

DYNAMOMETER, for testing the draught of Plows and various Machinery—one of the most approved English pattern—for sale, or will be loaned for a reasnable price R. L. ALLEN 189 Water-st

---

POTATOES! POTATOES!

BRYAM'S PATENT POTATO DIGGER.

MANUFACTURED BY PITKIN BROTHERS, MANCHESTER, Connecticut, and at the Agricultural Works of PITKIN BROTHERS, LOUISVILLE, Kentucky. Price $10.

It works equally well in digging Irish or sweet potatoes. The potatoes are gathered clean, without being cut or bruised.

South Manchester, Conn., August 26, 1856.

Messrs. PITKIN BROTHERS, Manchester, Conn.

Dear Sirs:—We used one of your Potato Diggers in digging our last year's crop, some twenty-five acres, and were much pleased with its operations. We think the potatoes were gathered cleaner than would usually be done with a hook or hoe, and we are confident that it saved us at least a hundred dollars in gathering our crop. We do most cheerfully recommend it as a new labor-saving implement.

Cheney Brothers. { WARD CHENEY,
RUSH CHENEY,
FRANK CHENEY.

Aberdeen, Miss., Feb. 8, 1856.

Messrs. PITKIN BROTHERS, Louisville, Ky.

Dear Sirs:—I am much obliged to you for the Potato Digger sent me last season. I used it in gathering my patch, and loaned it to my neighbors. We were all delighted with it, and considered it *just the thing* for digging sweet potatoes. Inclosed please find an order for twelve Diggers, for which my neighbors have requested me to send. Yours, &c.,

JAMES G. RANDLE.

A descriptive Circular sent to applicants. For sale as above. Also by R. L. ALLEN, New-York City, and by other implement dealers throughout the country. 117n115

INGERSOLL'S IMPROVED, PORTABLE,

HAY AND COTTON PRESSES,

A Silver Medal for which was awarded at the late Fair of the American Institute ; also, at the Fairfield County Fair, in Conn.

This Press combines *greater power and durability, requires less labor, occupies less space, and costs less money* than any other Machine for baling Hay or Cotton, ever offered to the public.

And on account of its CHEAPNESS, COMPACTNESS, PORTABILITY and GREAT POWER, it is exactly adapted to the wants and means of every farmer, and it is believed to be far superior, in every respect, to any other machine of the kind now manufactured.

The *Scientific American* of April 5, 1856, says of it:

"It will be observed that this press is extremely simple and cheap in its construction, while at the same time it is strong and powerful ; it is also very compact and convenient, readily moved from place to place, &c. It may be employed for pressing cotton and other substances, with the same facility as hay. We regard it as a very excellent improvement."

The great inconvenience and annual expense of wear and breakage in the use of the *Roller, Ratchet,* Rope and Chain, is entirely obviated in this invention.

We have numerous letters from those who have seen and used these presses during the past season, similar to the following from Wm. Thompson, Esq., South Londonderry, Vt., who writes Feb. 8, 1856, as follows:

"*Gentlemen*:—I think your Press, with the improvement you have made recently, will exceed anything of the kind yet got up, for it will press more in a day, with only two hands to work it, and do it easier, than any other press in New-England."

By the use of this Press, the farmer who resides far inland, and who has been prevented from transporting his hay to market on account of its great bulk, may so far reduce the cost of transportation, by compressing the hay into solid and compact bales, as to make this valuable product one of the most profitable articles of farm culture.

☞ The smallest size will give a pressure of *eight to ten tons,* and a bale of hay can be pressed in about *one minute.* The Presses can readily be made of ANY SIZE or SHAPE desired. The regular sizes now made at the factory are:

Size No. 1, designed to make a bale of Hay, weighing from 175 to 200 lbs. Price $50.

Size No. 2, designed to make a bale of Hay, weighing from 300 to 350 lbs. Price $75.

Size No. 3 is of immense power and strength, and is designed more especially for HEMP, FLAX or HAY for shipping to distant ports, or where great compactness is required. Weight of bale 350 lbs. Price $125.

COTTON PRESS. PRICE $150.

This *economical, portable* and *highly approved Press,* has been thoroughly tested, and we would especially call the attention of planters and others to this improvement before purchasing elsewhere. The pressing room is 52 1-2 cubic feet. It will hold of Cotton, if properly trod down, 500 pounds. The bale will be 5 feet long, 2 feef wide, and 2 1-2 thick, containing 25 cubic feet, or 20 pounds to the foot. Outside measure 7 1-4 feet high, 7 feet long, 3 feet wide ; weight about 1,400 pounds.

TOBACCO PRESS. PRICE $125.

This press is also very strong and heavily ironed, possessing great power, occupying but little room, and adapted to pressing tobacco into the hogshead without the loss of time and labor common to the *Screw Press.* The cask sets on the pressing platform and is *pressed up* against a suitable head piece; then lowered, filled and pressed again, and so on until the cask is full. This is accomplished with great facility and convenience, and may be done with two hands. The portability, the small space occupied, and the low price of this Press, are advantages which cannot fail to meet with the approval of planters, and a large sale throughout the tobacco-growing States.

These Presses are so *compact,* that they are sent by ship, canal or railroad, most conveniently and in the best order without being taken to pieces ; thus saving expense to the purchaser.

This Improvement, combining the principle of a *continuous lifting power,* is at once very great, very compact and very cheap ; being much quicker, and in many applications more convenient than the screw, and we are prepared to furnish it on short notice, combining more or less power, for *Cider Mill Presses, Cheese Presses, Oil Cake, Cloth or Paper* and also for *raising* vessels, *moving* buildings, PULLING STUMPS, &c.

The expense of Machines, of course, will be in proportion to the *amount of power* required for use. The license for any of the States will be sold separately if desired, for the purposes herein specified. Persons wishing to engage in making and selling these various indispensable Machines, will find, on application to this Company, a rare chance for an investment.

Presses on hand and orders filled for any size, without delay. Address

FARMERS' & MECHANICS' MANUFACTURING CO.,
Green Point, Kings Co., L. I.
H. F. DOUGHERTY, President.
P. C. INGERSOLL, Secretary.

N. B.—The same company are manufacturing INGERSOLL'S IMPROVED, PORTABLE HAND-POWER MACHINES, for *Sawing down Trees, Sawing off Logs, &c., &c.,* to which the particular attention of the Public is called. 117n117.

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

HARROWS ; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,
For sale by
R. L. ALLEN,
109—
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

DEBURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME WORKS
DE BURG'S
CHEMICAL WORKS

DeBURG'S

AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a Genuine and UNIFORM article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places ; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my prsposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to teke, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to statethat many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced their unqualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1855, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feb. 1st) orders for more than $100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market for the *value* of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always of acknowledged respectability. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it —cartage free—on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City.

CASH PRICE, $50 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to

C. B. DEBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,)
Williamsburg, L. I.
(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)

N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.
117—n118

FOR WHEAT AND GRASS LAND.

THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY are preparing, and have now for sale, to use upon Winter Grain and Grass, a large quantity of TAFEU every 100 pounds of which they will warrant to be composed of

70 pounds of Dried Night Soil, and screened through a 1-4 inch screen;

25 pounds No. 1 Peruvian Guano; and

5 pounds Calcined Plaster, and nothing else.

This article we desire to have tested alongside of any other fertilizer in market at the same cost, believing it is fully equal, if not superior to any other. Price $35 per ton, delivered on board of vessel or railroad in the city of New-York.

Also POUDRETTE in large or small quantities constantly on hand, and ready for delivery at the usual price, $1 50 per barrel for any quantity over seven barrels.

The Lodi Manufacturing Company have been engaged over seventeen years in the manufacture of Poudrette ; have one hundred thousand dollars permanently invested in the business, and have purchased for five years to come, the entire monopoly of all the Night Soil from the city of New-York, and are therefore deeply interested in the reputation of their manufactures.

A Pamphlet will be sent gratis to any one applying to
THE LODI MANUFACTURING COMPANY.
116-117n87 No. 60 Cortlandt-street, New-York.

PERUVIAN GUANO—*At lowest market prices,* wholesale and retail—with Government weight and brand on each bag, for sale at the
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT AND SEED
Warehouse of R. L. ALLEN,
Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.
ALLEN'S CELEBRATED MOWING MACHINE
CANNOT CLOG.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Superphosphate of Lime, &c,

BONE DUST, ground and sawings.
Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For sale by
R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

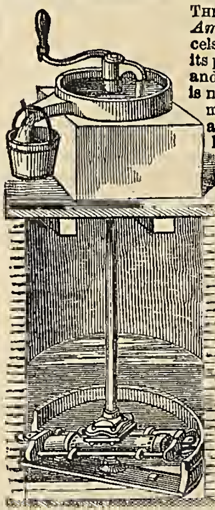
The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855 ; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,
C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

Lindsey's Double-Acting

ROTARY FORCE PUMP.



THIS pump has just been patented in *America* and *England,* and far excels any pump heretofore invented; its peculiarities are *simplicity, power,* and *cheapness.* Its simplicity ; there is nothing about it but iron and cast metal, and it can be taken apart and put up by any one, and will last for an age. It has the power to raise water *hundreds of feet,* with the extra expense of $3 and the price of pipe. Water rises in it by hand 100 feet per minute ! For cheapness ; a No. 1. pump (for all ordinary purposes) complete, and fifty feet of pipe, costs but $30 ! The handle at the top, turns the pipe and pump, and every revolution fills the cylinder twice, affording an abundant supply of water with the least possible expense and labor. It is peculiarly adapted to *deep wells, rail road stations, salt works, mining and manufacturing purposes.* Wherever it is introduced, the old force, suction and chain pumps will disappear. Practical and scientific men pronounce it as without an equal, for all that is here claimed for it. The *Scientific American,* after seeing it in operation, says : "*This pump is very simple in construction, not liable to get out of order, durable, easily operated and economical; we regard it as an excellent improvement.*" Circulars with an accurate drawing and full description sent free of charge to all parts of the country. No. 1, has a one inch pipe ; No. 2, 1¼ inches ; No. 3, 1½ inches ; and the prices $30, $42, $54 ; the No. 2 and 3 are designed for *very deep wells, railroad stations, &c.* where much water is required. The subscriber is the general agent for the sale of these pumps to all parts of the world, and *exclusive agent for* NEW YORK. Orders must be accompanied by the *cash,* and should be explicit as to the kind of pump wanted, depth of well, shipping address, &c. They will meet prompt attention. A pump and pipe weighs about 170 lbs. No charge for shipping or cartage. Wells over 50 feet should have extra gearing, which costs $3.

JAMES M. EDNEY,
Com. Merchant, 56 John St. N. Y.
For sale by H. LINDSEY, Inventor, Asheville, N. C.
113—118n69

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.
For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-street.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL

OVER TWO MILLION OF ACRES

OF

FARMING LANDS,

IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,

ON LONG CREDIT AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and include some of the richest and most fertile prairies in the State, interspersed here and there with magnificent groves of oak and other timber. The road extends from Chicago, on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the northwest extreme of the State, and as all the lands lie within fifteen miles on each side of this road, ready and cheap means are afforded by it for transporting the products of the lands to any of those points, and from thence to Eastern and Southern markets. Moreover, the rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages, along the line, and the great increase in population by immigration, etc., afford a substantial and growing home demand for farm produce.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken sod, usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from $2 to $2 50 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern market, and to Cairo for the Southern. The larger yield on the cheap lands of Illinois over the high-priced lands in the Eastern and Middle States, is known to be much more than sufficient to pay the difference of transportation to the Eastern market.

Bituminous coal is mined at several points along the road, and is a cheap and desirable fuel. It can be delivered at several points along the road at $1 50 to $4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord.

Those who think of settling in Iowa or Minnesota, should bear in mind, that lands there of any value, along the water courses, and for many miles inland, have been disposed of—that for those located in the interior, there are no conveniences for transporting the produce to market, railroads not have been introduced there. That to send the produce of these lands one or two hundred miles by wagon to market, would cost much more than the expense of cultivating them; and hence, Government lands thus situated, at $1 25 per acre, are not so good investments as the land of this Company at the prices fixed.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road; and others with which it connects, the operation, of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from $5 to $25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made during the year 1856, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, $150 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

Special arrangements with dealers can be made to supply those purchasing the Company's lands with fencing materials, agricultural tools, and an outfit of provisions in any quantity, at the lowest wholesale prices.

It is believed that the price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter, in English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.
Office, up to the 1st of May, No. 52 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. After that date, in the new stone Passenger Depot, foot South Water-street.
112—117n51

THE INDEPENDENT,

A

WEEKLY RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Circulation over 25,600!!!

Rapidly Increasing

AMONG ITS MANY DISTINGUISHED WRITERS ARE

REV. GEORGE B. CHEEVER, D. D.
REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER,
GOV. LOUIS KOSSUTH,
M. LOUIS CZERNATONY,
MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE,
MR. CHARLES L. BRACE,
DEAN,
MINNIE MYRTLE,
ANNIE H.,
M. E. W.,
M. L. E.,
And numerous others.

CORRESPONDENTS

from all sections of the Union; from England, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and the Holy Land, contribute to enrich the columns of THIS JOURNAL.

That no other weekly religious newspaper ever met with the success of *The Independent* must now be universally admitted. It has been the aim of the proprietors, without regard to expense, to make it rank in point of talent as high as the best journal of a similar character in the world; and to make it popular *only* so far as this could be done by treading boldly and firmly in the path of Christian duty—"not as pleasing me, but God."

A crisis has arrived when every Christian is called upon to ask, "Lord, what wilt thou have *me* to do" in a conflict for principle and human rights as great as the world has ever seen. No voice can now be silent with impunity. If the religious press or Christian men now refuse either to speak or to act, the very stones will cry out for Heaven's sorest judgments, and we shall be left as a nation to fill up the measure of our iniquity.

Now is the time to prove who are the true lovers of liberty, and to demonstrate who are the worthy descendants of the fathers of the Revolution, who were willing to lay down their lives to secure for this fair country an inheritance of freedom.

The Independent will enter the field side by side with *all* who desire to do battle for *truth, justice,* and *humanity.* With all the power God may give it, it will urge the Christian public to do with their might what their hands find to do to save our beloved country from the death-grasp of Slavery. It will advocate freedom of speech, freedom of the press, free soil, free men, and —— Fremont for the next President. Those who think a religious paper should not thus freely join with the secular press in doing this extraordinary work, are informed that the matter has been calmly considered, the cost counted, and the conclusion deliberately and conscientiously arrived at, that duty to God and man precludes a moment's hesitation as to the course which ought to be taken by this paper. Those who sympathize with it, of every name and party, and they are *thousands,* will aid the cause by doing all they can to extend its circulation.

Those unacquainted with *The Independent* are informed that the paper will furnish articles weekly as follows:

1st. Religious Editorials. Selections, and current Religious News.
2d. Editorials discussing the great Moral and Political Questions of the Day.
3d. Communications from regular weekly contributors, embracing every variety of topic suited to a Christian family—to the *living,* not to the dead
4th. Foreign and Domestic Correspondence.
5th. Reviews and Special Articles on important topics by the ablest living writers.
6th. An Article on Agriculture, embracing information from all parts of the country in relation to the condition of the crops.
7th. A Review of the New-York Cattle and Produce Market.
8th. A Price Current, carefully corrected weekly.
9th. A Commercial and Financial Article, embracing topics suited especially to business life, and containing all the important news of the day, including a List of Failures from all parts of the country.
10th. Poetry, Religious Items, Reports of Public Meetings, Book Notices and Reviews, and other matters interesting to the reading public.

TERMS.—By Mail, $2 00 per annum in advance,

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Fifteen cents per line each insertion.

SPECIMEN NUMBERS sent gratis.

Office, No. 22 Beekman-street, New-York.
JOSEPH H. LADD,
Publisher.
August, 1856. 116-118n96

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz: Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—DRAINING and IRRIGATION in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines, wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission.

SHIPMAN & HAMMOND.
111—121n48 No. 63 Trinity Buildings, 111 Broadway, N. Y

THE TEETH vs. THE HEALTH.

EVERYBODY KNOWS the pleasures of an aching tooth, and nothing need be said upon that head. But

EVERYBODY does not fully appreciate how much good health depends upon having food well masticated, for which, of course, GOOD TEETH are necessary. Said the Editor of the Agriculturist recently:

"I have kept myself and my *Children* in *perfect health* during the present year, by simply taking especial care to have *every* particle of food thoroughly mashed or pulverized before going into the stomach. In this way nothing of a hard nature, like a piece of potato, fruit, meat or other food goes into the intestines to produce irritation, and the consequent diarrhœa, dysentery and other bowel complaints."

Every consideration speaks strongly in favor of preserving the teeth we have, and of supplying those already gone.

Those who wish any operations upon their teeth performed *honestly, carefully, skilfully,* in short, in the *best possible manner,* and upon *reasonable terms,* will do well to call upon DR. BENJAMIN F. ADAMS, at No. 122 Chambers-street, New-York, (a little west of the City Hall.)

Dr. ADAMS has given exclusive attention to operations upon the teeth for over fourteen years, and confidently refers to the thousands of persons who have been under his care.

Dr. ADAMS may always be found at his office, so that persons coming in from the country may depend upon having any desired operation performed immediately on their arrival.

Whole or Part Sets of Incorruptible Teeth inserted without pain, on Gold Plate or Gutta Percha, excelling nature in beauty and durability, by aid of the various modern inventions and the subscriber's recent improvements. Spongy, bleeding, or ulcerated gums speedily cured. Partly decayed teeth saved with gold, tin, or patent fillings, and their preservation warranted. No impure gold or dangerous amalgams used.

Irregularities in children's teeth prevented, or of adults remedied. Cleansing, extracting, &c., &c., *all at low prices.*

Satisfaction in regard to color, form, and translucency of all teeth inserted, in block or single, is in all cases warranted.

The great delicacy and caution observed in all operations, with the aid of recently improved and superior instruments, dispense with all necessity of chloroform or other narcotics in the most irritable nervous system.

Teeth examined, and advice given *free of charge.*

BENJAMIN F. ADAMS,
116—118n101 No. 122 Chambers-street.

YOUATT'S CONDITION POWDERS, For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP and SWINE—cures Heaves, Cough, Glanders, and all diseases resulting from Colds, and which affect the mucous membrane of the lungs, throat and head of the Horse. Also expels Botts and Worms, loosens the hide, improves the appetite, and keeps the animal in good condition. Youatt's Condition Powders are recommended to all who take a pride in preserving the good health and fine appearance of their Stock. Price 50 cents a package. Sold at wholesale by Haviland, Harral & Risley, Wholesale Druggists, No. 39 Warren-st., and by dealers generally. 114-119n70

DOCTOR HOOFLAND'S
CELEBRATED

GERMAN BITTERS,

PREPARED BY

Dr. C. M. JACKSON, Philad'a, Pa.

WILL EFFECTUALLY CURE
LIVER COMPLAINT, DYSPEPSIA, JAUNDICE,
CHRONIC OR NERVOUS DEBILITY,
DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS,
AND ALL DISEASES
ARISING FROM
A DISORDERED
LIVER
OR
STOMACH;

Such as Constipation, Inward Piles, Fullness or Blood to the Head, Acidity of the Stomach, Nausea, Heartburn, Disgust for Food, Fullness or Weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinking or Fluttering at the Pit of the Stomach, Swimming of the Head, Hurried and Difficult Breathing, Fluttering at the Heart, Choking or Suffocating Sensations when in a lying posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots of Webs before the Sight, Fever, and Dull Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness of the Skin and Eyes, Pain in the Side, Back, Chest, Limbs, &c., Sudden Flushes of Heat, Burning in the Flesh, Constant Imaginings of Evil, and Great Depression of Spirits.

The Proprietor, in calling the attention of the public to this preparation, does so with a feeling of the utmost confidence in its virtues and adaptation to the diseases for which it is recommended.

It is no new and untried article, but one that has stood the test of a ten years' trial before the American people, and its reputation and sale is unrivalled by any similar preparations extant. The testimony in its favor, given by the most prominent and well-know physicians and individuals in all parts of the country, is immense, and a careful perusal of the Almanac, published annually by the Proprietor, and to be had gratis of any of his Agents, cannot but satisfy the most skeptical that this remedy is really deserving the great celebrity it has obtained.

Principal Office and Manufactory, No. 96 ARCH-street, Philadelphia, Pa. And for sale by all Druggists and Store-keepers in every town and village in the United States and Canadas.
117-119n116

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, Sept. 27, 1856.

The Breadstuff Markets have varied considerably during the month. Unfavorable reports of the crops in Europe elevated prices here for a time. More favorable reports recently have had a contrary effect, and as shown in the table below, the prices now vary but little from one month ago. The market is, however, quite firm. As stated in our last report, the crop of wheat in this country proves not to have been very large, though pretty good, and gathered in excellent condition. The corn crop has had rather a poor chance, owing to the late start in the Spring, and recent cold weather. Still, if early frosts do not come on, the yield will be fair. There is no apparent reason for expecting any material decline in prices of grain, and the chances are about even for a rise or decline.

Fruit is somewhat deficient in many parts of the country. Those who have a supply for drying will probably realize good returns.

The following table shows the total receipts of flour and grain in this city by Railroad, River, Canal and Coastwise, for 26 business days ending to-day:

Flour..	388,000 bbls.	Rye..	33,000 bush.
Wheat.	1,274,000 bush.	Oats..	180,000 bush.
Corn...	1,830,600 bush.	Barley,	54,900 bush.

We find upon our note-book records of the following sales in this city for 27 business days ending to-day:

Flour...	269,770 bbls.	Rye....	105,300 bush.
Wheat.	1,684,500 bush	Barley.	37,500 bush.
Corn..	1,703,000 bush.		

The following figures show the present prices of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report:

		August 29.	Sept. 27.
Flour—Ordinary State		$6 00@6 10	$5 90@ 6 00
Various Western brands		5 70@ 7 50	6 05@ 7 75
Favorite and Ex. State		6 25@ 6 60	6 30@ 6 65
Extra Genesee		7 00@ 9 50	7 00@ 9 00
Wheat—Canada White		1 50@ 1 60	1 56@ 1 63
Southern White		1 58@ 1 65	1 55@ 1 65
Southern Red		1 45@ 1 53	1 52@ 1 55
Western Red and White		1 25@ 1 65	1 40@ 1 63
Corn—Mixed		55@ 62	62@ 70
Yellow and White		60@ 68	65@ 72
Rye—New		87@ 88	86@ 88
Barley		@	1 28@ 1 30
Oats—Western, &c		41@ 50	38@ 46
Cotton—Middling and Fair		11½@ 12	11⅞@ 13
Rice	℔ 100lbs	3 65@4 02½	4 00@4 62½
Pork—Mess	℔ bbl	19 25@19 35	19 75@20 00
Dressed Hogs	℔ lb	7¾@ 87	7⅝@ 8½
Lard, in bbls	℔ lb	13@ 13½	14½@ 14¾
Butter—Western	℔ lb	14@ 19½	12@ 19
State	℔ lb	18@ 24	15@ 22
Orange Co	℔ lb	24@ 28	22@ 28
Cheese	℔ lb	6@ 9	7@ 9
Potatoes—Carters	℔ bbl	@	@
Mercers	℔ bbl	2 50@ 2 75	1 50@ 2 25
Onions—Reds	℔ bbl	2 00@ 2 25	1 62@ 1 75
White	℔ bbl	2 50@ 2 75	2 00@ 2 25
Apples	℔ bbl	75@ 3 50	50@ 2 50

Beef Cattle have been in fair supply during the month. The receipts for *four* weeks, ending Sept. 24, compare as follows:

	1855.	1856.
Total of Beeves for 4 weeks	17,465	16,004
Weekly average	4,366	4,001

During the month the prices on the principal market days have varied as follows: Sept. 3d, 1a1¼c. decline; Sept. 10th, ¼a½c. advance; Sept. 17th, ¾c. decline; Sept. 24th, ½c. advance. On Wednesday of this week the receipts were 3,955, and prices at Forty-fourth street ranged: Premium cattle 10c.a10½c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 9½c.a10c.; Medium quality, 9c.a9½c.; Poor quality, 8½c.a9c.; Poorest quality, 7½c.a8c.; General selling prices, 9c.a10c. Average of all sales about 9½a9¾c.

Sheep have been in fair supply, though less than for the same time last year, and prices continue higher. Receipts for *four* weeks ending Sept. 24:

	1855.	1856.
Total of sheep and lambs	67,587	55,268
Weekly average	16,897	13,817

Prices of Sheep and Lambs the past week have ranged from $2 to $11 per head, the majority of good animals bringing $3a$4 50 per head.

THE WEATHER.—During most of this month the weather has been quite cool, with considerable rain at times. Corn has not grown so rapidly as seemed to be needed by the backward state of that crop. Overcoats have been quite comfortable on several mornings and evenings. During the past week, reports of frosts have reached us from several parts of the country, both North and South. Our Weather Notes condensed, read:—August 29, cloudy; 30, 31, clear, fine. September 1, cloudy, cool; 2, 3, clear and cool; 4, 5, clear, warm, fine; 6, cloudy; 7, clear, warm; 8, warm rain; 9, 10, fine, clear, warm; 11, rainy; 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, clear, fine, but cool; 17, clear, warmer; 18, clear, quite warm, 84°; 19, clear, warm; 20, rainy, 21, clear, fine; 22, rainy; 23, 24, 25, clear, but quite cool; a little frost on morning of 25; overcoats needed; 26, 27, clear, moderately warm.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS.—J. E. Raht, Tenn. Probably the book coming nearest your wants, that is, one on "raising cattle, hogs, or stock generally," is Allen's Domestic Animals. Price 75 cents.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

BACK VOLUMES.

We have *only* Volumes XII, XIII and XIV. Price, Bound, $1 50.—Unbound, $1 00 per volume.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have sundry *odd* numbers of Volumes, XI to XIV, These will be sent free to those wishing to complete their volumes for binding.

Of Volume XV, we have several copies of October, November, December, May, June, and September, (Nos. 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9) and a very few of July and August (Nos. 10 and 11). These will be sent to subscribers post-paid, on the receipt of three 3-cent stamps.

In order to make the Volumes correspond with the year hereafter, this Volume (XV) will be continued to December, and contains 15 numbers. Subsequent Volumes will begin in January and end in December.

☞ We sometimes send (post paid) a spare copy of the Agriculturist to persons who are not subscribers. This is occasionally done as a compliment, and at other times to invite the person receiving it to examine its merits and see if it will not be worthy of a year's, or at least six months' subscription, by way of trial. Will those who may receive such copies please look them over, and, if convenient, pass them along to their neighbors? No one need take the trouble to return papers thus received—we never send the Agriculturist when we do not consider it *paid* for, and no one need fear to subscribe for a short period, lest they "can not get rid of it" if not wanted. The paper is always stopped when the time expires for which it has been ordered and paid.

INDEX.

Apples, best kinds for Orchard....301
Apple Trees, Blooming of, for 59 years....302
Asparagus—Fall treatment of....305
Attics, Can Grapes be grown in....303
Books—Agricultural and Horticultural....292
CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS....290
Cattle, Relieving Choked....296
Cauliflower Poetry....305
Cemeteries, Rural....293
Church, High or Low....298
Cider, Hard....301
Corn, Save Seed carefully....297
" Shortening-in....297
" Gathering—Saving Good Seed....297
Currants, How to Raise....304
Editor's Farm Notes. [Eastern Con]....297
Eggs, Drying....296
Exhibitions, Agricultural for 1856, List of....296
Grape Growing....302
Graperies, More About Attic....393
Hasty Pudding—How to make....305
Hay, Putting Lime into....296
Horses, A Chapter on Watering....299
Horses, Scratches in....296
Hogs, About Fattenig....300
Heaves, a Horse with....299
Insects, Destroying Injurious....304
"It is Said,"....296
Jackets, Whipping....307
Little Thing, Importance of a....298
Marshes, Reclaiming Salt....298
Millet, A trial of....295
Order, some thoughts on....306
Peppers....301
Plants, Natural vs Chemical Analyses....295
Potatoes, Harvesting....30
Poultry, How to send to Market....294
"Professorship" That....307
Recipes—Fried Pudding—Green Corn Cake—and Omelet—Creamed Pine Apple—Baked Tomatoes....306
Review of Prices, Weather, &c....312
Rhubarb....305
Root Tops, Valuable for feeding....295
Sandy Soils—Why Clay benefits....294
Seeds—Distribution of....305
Sorghum, or Chinese Sugar Cane....305
Strawberry, new test for....305
Strawberries....305
Sulphur, Blight cured by....303
Swamps, Draining and Reclaiming....298
Tim Bunker going to the Fairs....296
Trees, When and how to set out....292
" The beauty of....304
WORK FOR THE MONTH....289
Writing for Agricultural Journals....295

American Agriculturist.

(Established in 1842.)

A THOROUGH-GOING, RELIABLE, and PRACTICAL Journal, devoted to the different departments of SOIL CULTURE—such as growing FIELD CROPS; ORCHARD and GARDEN FRUITS; GARDEN VEGETABLES and FLOWERS; TREES, PLANTS, and FLOWERS for the LAWN or YARD; IN-DOOR and OUT-DOOR work around the DWELLING; care of DOMESTIC ANIMALS, &c. &c.

☞ The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month.

A full CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS for the season is given every month.

Over FIVE HUNDRED PLAIN, PRACTICAL, instructive articles are given every year.

The Editors and Contributors are all PRACTICAL, WORKING MEN.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ In addition to the above rates: Postage to Canada 12 cents, to Europe 24 cents; Delivered in New-York City 12 cents.

Subscriptions can begin Jan. 1st, July 1st, or at other dates, if especially desired.

The paper is considered *paid for* wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st., New-York.

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$2 00
Three copies of both papers one year	5 25
Ten copies of both papers one year	17 00

Printed by R. Cunnington, 191 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Gardener, and the Planter.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN.—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 14.] NEW-YORK, NOVEMBER, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 118.

☞ The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor at 191 Water-st. (near Fulton).

☞ All Business and other letters should be addressed to ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st.,
New-York City.

☞ Personal Letters, or those for the Editor only should be marked *Private*.

See About the Baker's Dozen, page 333.

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

"Yet one smile more departing distant sun,
One mellow smile through the soft vaporing air,
Ere o'er the frozen earth the loud winds run,
Or snows are sifted o'er the meadows bare;
One smile on the brown hills and naked trees,
And the dark rocks whose summer wreaths are cast,
And the blue Gentian-flower that in the breeze
Nods lonely, of her beauteous race the last.
Yet a few sunny days, in which the bee
Shall murmur by the hedge that skirts the way,
The cricket chirp upon the russet lea,
And man delight to linger in thy way,
Yet one rich smile, and we will try to bear
The piercing winter frost, and winds and darkened air"
BRYANT.

How silently has the sun stolen southward, looking in now at windows, and casting his warm beams upon carpets that were unblest with his smiles all the summer long. The gorgeous drapery of the forest has gone, and the maples and walnuts no more flame in gaudy red and yellow. Here and there only an oak, tenacious of its russet leaves, reminds us that the foliage has had its reign, and that the summer is ended. The leaves lie scattered through the forests, and by the road side, and give back a lonely sound to the tread of the hunter. The nuts have been gathered, or lie scattered among the burrs, and shells. The blithe squirrel with tail erect, and comfortable memory of his winter hoards, barks cheerly among the boughs. His knot-hole in the hollow chestnut, or oak, is his castle, and thither he retreats when the dogs pursue him.

There is a cool bracing atmosphere at morning, and the white frost lies glittering upon the grass as the farmer goes forth to his morning duties. The cattle still glean something from the fields, though the glorious green of the aftermath is gone. Work out of doors is no longer pressing, and the industrious man now appreciates and enjoys the fruits of his summer labors. The fire-board has already been removed from the hearth for the winter, and the blazing wood throws an air of cheerfulness over the happy family circle. The winter school has begun and the younger children are already at their studies. The older will soon follow, as soon as the last harvest work is done, and the old wall reset. What occasion has the farmer for cheerfulness and thanksgiving, as he looks around upon his comforts. A kind Providence has blest him in his basket and his store. His barns, and granaries are full, and his cellar stored with vegetables. His bins are full of apples, and his meat barrels, if not already stocked, have their filling in certain prospect. Sleek porkers revel in hominy and clean straw, and beeves stuff their round bellies to make rounds of beef. The young pullets with combs of fiery red have deposited their first egg, and made noise enough for a whole litter. Thrift and plenty are on every hand, and now if there be a contented mind, what home so happy as the farmer's. No famine-price of bread can mar his peace. He has corn and meat to sell. No rogue can run away with his capital. His bank is one of earth and its deposits never mysteriously disappear.

The long evenings have come, and gathered around the blazing hearth, with wife and children, he may enjoy life. He has cultivated his acres diligently, and he may now cultivate his mind and heart. He has his journals and books, and can read the accounts of horticultural and agricultural exhibitions such as he has not been able to visit. He can read up the political speeches that were necessarily laid aside during the harvesting of corn and potatoes. He can turn from the present to the past, and study the history of former generations.

November is to us one of the most enjoyable months of the year. The fine bracing air, neither too hot nor too cold, gives a zest to all labors and pleasures. The storms of the wild equinox are over, and those of winter have not yet commenced. The beautiful soft haze of the Indian summer robes the distant hills and throws an air of enchantment about every prospect.

But in the few sour and stormy days that come we have a foretaste of what is in store for us. The sun grows lower in the southern horizon, and can not much longer withstand the onward march of winter. Let his departing smile admonish us

TO SET OUR HOUSE IN ORDER.

Winter will soon be upon us with its drifting snows, its driving rains, and terrible frosts. If the roof is not tight, call in the carpenter and fix it the first fair day. Already the leaks have spotted the paper upon the walls, and the carpet upon the floor. This is poor economy. Stop the leaks. Last winter, possibly, the potatoes were frost bitten in the cellar, and bushels were thrown away as useless. The pump pipes perhaps were frozen and burst. Now take time by the forelock, and bank up all around the house before the ground is frozen. Better have the cellar windows darkened with straw, or sea weed, than to have frost doing such mischief. Now is the time for this work.

TIGHT BARNS

also are an item of great importance for the health and comfort of cattle, and for the easy conscience of owners. If you would rest well in the zero nights of January, make provision to shelter all the stock upon your farm. Cracks should be battened, and the barn be made so tight, that ventilation at the top will be necessary. It takes much less hay, and provender to winter cattle in a warm stable, and they come out sleek and fat in the spring. It is not yet too late to bring

WATER IN TO THE YARD.

There is great waste of manure, and flesh on the part of cattle, and of time and labor, on the part of the owner, in driving cattle a half mile to water in the winter. A barn is frequently commanded by hills in the neighborhood that will furnish an abundant supply of water. A lead pipe laid below frost will introduce it, and save time and money.

STORING ROOTS.

This should now be attended to without much delay. Severe frost injures the keeping quantity of most of the roots. They should be harvested in dry weather, that they may be as free from dirt as possible. All leaves should be carefully removed from them, that there may be nothing left to decay. The unpleasant smell arising from turnips in the cellar is generally owing to a neglect of this precaution. Ventilation is important, and they should be put up in narrow bins to prevent them from heating. Potatoes should be stored in a dark cellar safe from frost. They are more injured by light, and frost than other roots. Assorting them is good work for rainy days, if that have not been already done. The smallest potatoes cooked, make good beef and pork. The middling size we use for seed, and the largest are for market and the table.

White field turnips will stand the frost and even continue to grow until they freeze into the ground; but their keeping quality is injured by the frost. Pulled in October before hard frosts, they do not become pithy so soon. The tops should be close cut to prevent sprouting.

Beets are injured by frost below 25°. The crowns turn black and decay. The late fall rains too cause a second growth of roots and change a portion of the saccharine matter to woody fibre. Any gain in size is lost in quality. Harvested early, they will keep well in a cool dark cellar until spring.

The white Belgian carrot which grows high above the ground is injured by freezing, while the orange and other varieties covered with earth will endure 20 degrees of cold, or even keep sound through the winter. We have had them freeze through in the root room without apparent injury.

Swedes and Ruta bagas are very hardy, and may go in last. A root-room adjoining the barn is the best place to keep them, and if such a place has not been already provided.

A ROOT ROOM

should be among the earliest investments of a little spare capital. Roots are coming in to use more and more in this country, and deservedly. They are raised more easily than grain, and go much further, acre for acre.

Parsnips are improved by freezing, and may remain out all winter. Care should be taken to have no water stand about the tops. The crowns sometimes decay from this cause. They are a very nutritious feed for pigs and cows, but when they bring a dollar a bushel in market, as they often do in the first three months of the year, it is best to sell them. Carelessness in storing roots has often led to great loss and discouraged the farmer from growing them.

FATTENING SWINE AND CATTLE.

No time should be lost now in preparing them for the butcher. They take on flesh more easily in warm than in very cold weather. It is a matter of great importance that they should have full feed, at regular times, warm stalls, and beds, and be kept quiet as possible. Cooked food goes much further than raw.

CARTING MUCK.

Some farmers remove the manure that has accumulated in the sheds and yards during the summer, at this season, and make piles of it upon the green sward that is to be turned up next spring. They put in muck enough to absorb the gases, and make the heaps high so that they will not take too much of the rain. This helps forward the spring work very much, and on this account is a good usage. Where this is done the yards and stables should be immediately supplied with muck thrown out from the swamps and ditches a year ago. Muck is to be always on hand, as work to fall back upon, when other business is not pressing. It must not be neglected even in the busiest season. The making of manure is a fundamental business upon the farm. It is to cultivation, what action is to oratory, the first, middle, and last thing, and if the farmer would make his crops talk with Demosthenian eloquence, he must insist upon manure, *manure*, MANURE. Keep the teams carting muck until the yards, sties, privies, and stables are well stored.

THE RATIO OF STOCK TO FODDER.

This is sometimes lost sight of, and if the farmer could only lose sight of the miserable lean kine that come of it in the spring, it might answer. But ribs and hip bones will stick out, proclaiming the folly of keeping cattle on a scanty diet. Ten cows well fed will give more profit, than fifteen, pinched for food through the winter. Therefore either sell off your surplus or make up your mind to buy fodder. Do not think to make swamp hay or salt marsh do the work of corn fodder or herd's grass. An animal's stomach is proof against any such fraud.

GATHER LEAVES.

They lie now frequently in heaps and rows, in the corners, and under the walls, where they may be easily secured. Soon the winds will scatter them, or the snows will cover them, and they will be lost. Leaves are among the best fertilizers within the reach of the farmer. They are good bedding for cattle, good in the compost heap, and hot bed in the spring. Save all within your reach.

LOOK TO YOUR DITCHES AND DRAINS

that they may be ready for their winter work. The cleanings of the ditches are good material for the compost heap.

RIDGE YOUR GARDENS.

The frost will do a good work for your subsoil, if you will give it an opportunity. The ridges may be made with a heavy plow or with the spade. Ground that is wanted for early crops should be manured before ridging. Make the ridges at least two feet high, and let them be as close together as is possible with that depth. The subsoil will be pulverized by the frosts, and will receive some ammonia from the snows and winter rains.

CLEAN CHIMNEY AND STOVE PIPES.

This is a matter that you should not leave to the future. A chimney on fire in a windy, zero night is a poor lullaby. See to this matter in person, or at least know that it is well done. A chimney may be fired with a bundle of straw in a rainy day with safety.

STORES FOR THE MIND.

While you are providing for physical comfort during the winter, do not forget a good stock of reading. There are points in your husbandry that you have not yet settled. Seek light on these topics and make yourself a well read and intelligent man. Nothing pays better upon the farm, than science united to practical skill. Take a good supply of agricultural and horticultural papers, that you may know what progress husbandry is making in all parts of the land. The periodical press is now pouring forth such floods of choice literature, and standard works are so cheap, that every one can supply his household.—ED.

STRYCHNINE ANTIDOTE.—Mr. C. Leavitt, of Rockville, Connecticut, informs the Scientific American that a valuable dog poisoned by strychnine, and fast sinking under its influence, was cured by half a pint of strong coffee.

The eye's eloquence, twin born with thought outstrips the tardy voice ?

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

NOVEMBER, 1856.

[We give from month to month, besides our leading article, "Work for the Month," a Calendar of some of the more important operations in the field, garden, &c. These are adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 42°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north, earlier south. An early season, or a late one advances or retards operations, so that we shall need to revise and adapt these tables to each year.

The letters f. m. l. refer to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month.

Doubling the letters thus: ff., mm., or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

FARM.

Barns—Have in readiness for cold weather, with stalls and mangers prepared for cattle and horses.

Barn-yards—Keep well supplied with muck, and guard against drainage as directed last month.

Beeves—Continue to feed if not already fit for the butcher. Complete fattening before severe weather and finish by giving corn, or Indian meal.

Buildings of all kinds—Look to see that they are in good condition, and of sufficient number to protect both *bipeds and quadrupeds* from the severe cold and driving snows of the approaching winter.

Cellars—Remember the frozen roots of last winter and guard against a repetition, by timely banking up with spent tan or saw dust, and doubling the windows or even darkening them rather than have frost in the cellar. Ventilation should not be closed, however, until severe cold requires it.

Cisterns, both for house and barn may be made during the early part of this month if not already done. Instead of driving the cattle a distance for water, collect from the barns and sheds that which would otherwise wash the yards, and conduct it into large cisterns so that a horse or other animal may be watered at a moment's notice.

Draining may still be continued during the greater part of the present month.

Economy of the Farm—Give store stock of all kinds sufficient food as the pastures fail, that they may commence the winter in "good heart." Complete fattening whatever is to be killed early; as less food is required now than in cold weather. Keep stock warm and sheltered for the same reason. Look over the farm, about the buildings and among the tools, and do whatever you can to save labor in the spring. Make manures assiduously, bearing in mind that if each cord costs you two dollars worth of time and labor, it is even better than to pay that much away for, perhaps, an inferior article.

Fattening stock of all kinds—Complete before severe cold weather requires a portion of the food to be used in keeping up the animal heat.

Fowls—Give cracked corn, mashed potatoes, &c., for two weeks to those you are fattening. Feed *meat* to hens as soon as the cold weather deprives them of their supply of worms and insects. If an animal dies a portion of the meat may be sliced off and hung up to feed out daily. The increase in eggs will much more than pay cost.

Frost—Guard against, both in cellars and about water pipes, which if exposed, should be boxed and filled in with tan or sawdust, or wound with straw.

Grain—Thresh ff. if not already done, preserving the straw for feeding and bedding.

Hogs—Give full supply of food so as to fatten early. Cooked food is much to be preferred, finishing by feeding corn or Indian meal. Keep the yards well supplied with muck, leaves, turf, mold, &c., all of which may be converted into excellent manure.

Manures—Continue manufacturing by collecting leaves—which are now abundant—scrapings from the woods, muck, turf, loam, &c. These can be used in the stable, barnyard, hog-pen, and privy, to absorb all the liquid.

Plow stiff clayey soils, leaving the ground in ridges to be acted on by frosts. See article on another page, headed "Plow the field and spade the garden."

Roots—Throw more earth upon the pits and gradually close the opening at the top as the weather becomes severe.

Stone fences or walls may be laid during this month. See article on another page.

Tools—Put away those not in use, repairing them if necessary that they may be all ready when wanted.

Turnips—Harvest Ruta Bagas m. to l. or as soon as the leaves begin to wilt from severe frosts: store them in cool dry cellars or put in pits or stacks as per directions on another page.

Winter grain—Keep cattle and especially sheep from feeding it down at this season, which is injurious to the roots.

Wood—Previous to the fall of snow in northern latitudes, the "down stuff" or fallen trunks of trees with which many forests abound should be cut and either carted to the house or piled up where it can be readily loaded upon the sled, and drawn out after the first fall of snow. Clear and level the ground for roads where you are to get the winter supply.

ORCHARD AND NURSERY.

Apple Trees—Set out ff. earthing them up a little to guard against blowing over.

Cherry Trees—Plant out standards ff. to m. on dry soil, or if wet, it should be drained.

Grounds—May be prepared for spring planting if not already done, by subsoiling or trenching, &c. See article elsewhere.

Mice—Guard against ravages in orchards, nursery rows and hedges, by cleaning away grass, weeds, &c., from the trees. Give the trunks of standards a coating of tar or other offensive substance.

Nursery Rows, especially upon moist heavy ground should have furrows turned towards the trunks, thus opening drains to carry off the water between the rows. This also prevents the frost from throwing the roots out of the ground.

Packing trees and shrubs is an important operation of the nurseryman during this month, and should be performed with reference to the distance they are to be sent. If transported far, the roots should be packed with moss, and covered with mats or bags, and the trunks and limbs well strawed up.

Pear Trees—Set out ff. to m. heading back long straggling branches, or a too upright top so as to give a sort of compactness to the head. See articles on transplanting, and also on Pears in this number.

Plum Trees may be set out at this season, but we prefer spring planting, especially in northern latitudes.

Pruning may still be done both in orchard and nursery.

Quinces—Plant ff. to m. the same as pears.

Raspberries—Plant ff. to m. Cover tender varieties m. to ll. or before the ground freezes.

Seeds of Apples, Pears, Quinces, Plums, Cherries, Peaches, &c.—Put in boxes of earth or plant ff. if not already done.

Straw up tender trees and shrubs as they stand in the ground, m. to l.

Taking up fruit and ornamental trees constitutes an important part of the nursery work for this month, and should be industriously pursued during the early part of it, or before the ground freezes, to retard the operation. Preserve as many roots as possible without splitting or lacerating them.

Transplanting may be done during the month or until the ground freezes, but it is better to set out early. Dig good sized holes, and having the trees taken up with care, expose the roots as little as may be to the sun, and none at all to the *frost*. See article last month.

Trench and manure grounds for spring planting ff. if not previously done.

KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDEN.

Artichokes—Dig and store for winter use, f. to m.

Asparagus—Dress and cover with coarse manures, straw, cedar, or other evergreen brush, &c. Plant out new beds, ff. trenching the ground and manuring heavily.

Bean Poles—Collect and store away in winter quarters.

Beets—Dig and store ff. if not done already. See article on keeping roots.

Blackberries—Plant ff. on deep rich soil.

Cabbage—Harvest m. or before the ground closes. Protect during winter by placing them head downwards upon dry ground in rows, and bank up sufficient earth to cover all but the roots. Cover plants in cold frames as severe weather approaches.

Cardoon—Continue earthing up ff. Protect during winter, same as celery, which see.

Carrots—Dig and store ff. to m. according to the weather. See article on keeping them.

Cauliflower—Plant out m. in well prepared beds with frames for their protection. Cover with sashes as heavy frosts approach, admitting air daily unless the cold is severe. Harvest and store mature flowers.

Celery—Earth up ff. Harvest, and protect for winter m. to l. See article on another page.

Cold Frames—Make ready ff. as they will be called into requisition m. to l.

Compost—Prepare for hot beds, and for spring use.

Currants—Plant out ff. to m. Cuttings may be taken off and kept in sand or earth, in cellars for spring planting. See article on page 304 of October number.

Drain wet lands for early spring gardening.

Figs—Cover, or carry to cellar, or cold grapery.

Gooseberries—Plant out ff. to m. same as currants.

Grapes—Cover tender varieties m. to l. Plant ff. to m. Old wood may now be cut out and the vines thoroughly pruned.

Horse Radish—Dig up what is wanted for winter use, covering with earth in the cellar.

Hot Beds—Prepare compost and collect leaves for them, ff. to m.

Lettuce—Plant in frames f. to m. covering them upon the approach of severe weather.

Mushroom Beds—Collect fresh horse droppings and make beds ff. to m. Attend to former ones, covering with brush and boards as cold weather comes on. Wet down with tepid soft water if the beds begin to fail.

Parsnips—Dig and store in the cellar what are wanted for winter use, covering with earth. Leave those for spring use and for seed in the ground.

Potatoes—Dig both common and sweet varieties ff. if not already done, storing from the frost. See directions for keeping roots on another page. Also a communication on page 327.

Pumpkins—Place in cool dry situations under cover, until severe frosts require their being removed to the cellar, or other place where they will not freeze. Warmth and dampness are both injurious to the pumpkin.

Raspberries—Lay down and cover tender varieties m. to l. with litter or earth. Make plantations ff. to m. on subsoiled or trenched, well manured land.

Rhubarb—Plant out ff. to m. dividing the roots to single crowns if desired.

Salsify.—Dig for winter use f. to m. covering in the cellar. Leave in the ground that wanted for spring.

Spinach—Cover with cedar brush, salt hay, flags or straw, or protect in frames during the winter.

Squashes—Protect same as pumpkins.

Strawberries—Cover with coarse manure or straw, m. to l.

Trench or subsoil grounds for early planting, ridging heavy or clayey soils.

Turnips—Dig and store m. to l. according to the season. See article in present number.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

Amaryllis, Tigridias and Tuberoses should be lifted ff. to m. and thoroughly dried. Pack in boxes of dry sand or moss, and place in a room or airy cellar, away from frost or moisture.

Bulbs—Lift late blooming varieties and remove to a dry cellar. Holland bulbs may yet be planted ff. if not done last month. Those intended for winter blooming, in hand glasses, should be placed in them ff. and kept in a cool room for about two weeks, when they may be taken to warmer quarters.

Carnations, Pinks and Pansies in pots—Place in frames for winter, filling around the pots with leaves, sawdust or tan. Cover those in beds with leaves or frames.

Dahlias—Lift and clean from earth ff. taking care not to shake them so as to break off the tubers. Cut off the tops and label with care and hang up, or put in boxes of sand in cool dry cellar, or room away from frost.

Dasies, Polyanthus, &c., planted in sheltered situations last month, should now have a covering of leaves to protect them from severe frosts.

Erythrinas—Lift and keep as Dahlias.

General appearance of Grounds—Collect and lay away all stakes, poles, &c. Rake and sweep up the decayed leaves from the alleys and lawn, using them as covering for tender plants. After covering carnations, pansies, dasies &c., with the leaves, throw over the whole a light covering of tan or loam, to prevent the leaves from blowing about. Let every thing be put in good order, with an aspect of neatness, that the eye may even contemplate with pleasure the grounds where are hibernating those plants which no longer gladden the eye with their beauty, or fill the air with fragrance.

Gladiolus—Take up ff., and label, and either hang up, or put in boxes of sand in dry cellars, or rooms where they will not freeze.

Half hardy shrubs, or large herbaceous plants should be protected as the weather becomes severe, by covering with mats or placing barrels over them with a few holes in the top for ventilation, or they may be covered with rye straw neatly bound around them.

Primroses—Protect as Dasies.

Roses—Straw up tender varieties, or put them in a frame. Ventilated barrels or boxes will do to place over them.

Shrubs—Hardy varieties may be transplanted ff. to m.

Stakes, Dahlia poles &c.—Collect ff. and preserve under cover for another season.

Stocks and Wall Flowers—Put in frames and protect as carnations.

Trees—Plant deciduous ff. to m. about the lawn, digging large holes and filling around the roots with rich earth.

Water sparingly as needed, but never when the ground is frozen.

GREEN AND HOT HOUSES.

Air every mild day, taking care not to allow the temperature to fall below 50° in the hot house or 45° in the green house.

Borders—Spade or fork over and manure.

Bulbs—Do not give too much water. If those intended to bloom in glasses are not already in, place them there ff. and keep in a cool appartment for about two weeks, when they may be carried to the hot house for blooming. By bringing a few in each week, a succession may be kept up during the winter.

Camellias—Give plenty of air and water, syringing the foliage often.

Cleanliness should be attended to, washing and syringing the plants, collecting the decayed leaves, sweeping the floors, &c.

Chrysanthemums—Water freely.

Fire—Keep steady heat, ventilating when there is an excess.

Geraniums—Turn often, that the opposite sides may be equally exposed.

Roses—Cuttings of some varieties may still be made. Tender varieties should now be brought in or placed in pits.

Shutters—Have in readiness, and use if very severe weather should occur.

Strawberries—Begin to force.

Tobacco Fumigations—Give as is necessary to destroy insects, using sulphur if mildew or blight make their appearance.

Water—Give two or three times a week, from cisterns in the houses, the water of which has not only become temperate, but by its evaporation tends to prevent that dryness in the atmosphere which would otherwise be the case.

PLOW THE FIELD AND SPADE THE GARDEN THIS FALL—WHY?

Almost our first editorial article was one in favor of stirring the soil in Autumn, both in Garden and Field. Every subsequent year's experience and observation have strengthened our conviction of utility. Aside from theoretical consideration, we have known a great number of actual trials by different individuals, all or nearly all of whom speak decidedly in favor of breaking up the ground as deeply and thoroughly as may be before it is closed by frost. Here is one to the point: A reader of this paper, a farmer in northern Ohio, who was "set agin" this fall plowing, called upon us in October, 1855, and we had quite a discussion over this subject, the result of which was a "compromise"—he agreeing to treat one half of a field after our plan, and the other half in the old way.

The soil was somewhat heavy, a clay loam, designed for a crop of spring wheat. The third week in November, a double team was put before a large plow, and the ground back-furrowed into narrow lands, only four furrows turned together. The intervening dead furrows were made as deep as the plow could be put in, and left open at the lower side of the field for the escape of of the water. Three acres were thus treated and three left untouched until spring.

On the 17th of May last Mr. L. wrote us that the part plowed last fall was very mellow, and so free from water that he actually harrowed it down nearly level and sowed it to wheat, before the rest of the field was dry enough to commence plowing.

A letter just received from him says: "I give it up. I shall plow all my land for spring crops this fall. The spring wheat on the plowed portion started much earlier, grew better, and yielded almost one third more. Stir up the farmers to plow all the land they can this fall, you cant do them a better service."

So much for Mr. L.'s experience in one trial. His is a marked case. The snow continued on the ground quite late last spring, and every day gained by having the ground previously plowed and drained was important. Again his soil is a heavy one, almost, and in some places quite a clay, and therefore most likely to be benefitted by thorough freezing. It is not best to jump at general conclusions from a single experiment. But we have numerous other examples, enough perhaps, to establish a general rule in favor of fall plowing all heavy soils.

Last year we described the practice of a successful gardener of our acquaintance who spades up nearly an acre every Autumn, throwing it into very high ridges like the following:

ΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛΛ

We saw the same garden the past summer and it continued to give evidence of the beneficial effects of such a course. The ridges freeze through, and in thawing crumble down, while the frost penetrates down below the bottom of the furrows, and the whole soil is rendered pulverulent and improved, and enriched by the ammonia collected from snows, rains, and the air during winter.

There are several advantages derived from fall plowing, part of which have been hinted at above:

The teams are generally in better condition for work in the fall than after passing through a long winter.

There is generally more time for plowing in fall, than in spring when getting in the spring crops, carting manure, &c., all crowd together.

Ground plowed in ridges, with deep open furrows between, dries out sooner, and on wet land several days may be gained, which is often enough to turn the sale in favor of a good wheat or oat crop. This was the case with Mr. L., described above.

The action of frost is very important in destroying and pulverizing the mineral elements and thus reducing them to that fine impalpable state necessary to giving a good medium for the growth of roots. See remarks in last number under "Why Clay benefits Sandy Soils."

Much poisonous matter in the soil is destroyed, since the frost and air penetrates a double depth where deep open furrows are left.

The organic or vegetable matter, such as roots of plants, are decomposed more rapidly when subjected to freezing and thawing, as is the case when the ridged soil is more thoroughly exposed to frost.

The roots of dock and other noxious weeds are more thoroughly killed out.

Insects that burrough deeply in the soil are killed by exposure to frost.

These considerations are enough, we think, to recommend plowing all heavy soils in autumn, where it can be done without serious neglect in the saving and threshing of crops already grown. Light, dry, sandy soils do not so strongly call for such fall treatment, though we think any soil will be benefitted.

n the case of garden soils, or those submitted to a high degree of cultivation, we recommend in all cases to subject them a thorough ridging and spading before they are frozen so much as to preclude the operation, and if it be neglected then, let it be attended to during winter, if the ground chances to be thawed out at any time.—Ed.

SHADE TREES.

Hints About Planting, and Description of some of the Best—How to Move Large Trees, &c.

For all Northern regions, where the frost has killed the leaves, the last of October and the first of this month, is the best season for transplanting deciduous (leaf-shedding) shade trees. The general rule is *move them as soon as the leaves fall.* The earlier after that period the better, though better late than never.

For a large tree, which is not to be moved far, a good plan is to dig a trench around it now, at a greater or less distance from the trunk, according to the size, and let it remain until the ground is hard frozen to a depth of eight to twelve inches. Then dig under it and cut off some of the deepest roots, and with a rope attached to the trunk or large limbs, lower it down cautiously, leaving a large mass of frozen earth attached firmly to the roots. Put it upon a "stone-boat" or sled, and move it to its new location. For a large tree, two sleds, or two pairs of wheels may be used, taking care not to break the branches or fracture the bark upon the trunk.

Now dig a hole just to fit the mass of earth, set up the tree and put on stones enough around the roots to keep it from being blown over. When the ground thaws, a tree thus moved will put forth leaves, and grow just as well as if left standing in its native location. However, if many roots are cut off it is well to cut off a corresponding amount of the limbs.

We have assisted in moving in this way some trees a foot in diameter, and 25 to 40 feet in hight, and have not known a case of failure. We saw an elm, 18 inches in diameter, and over 30 feet high, moved four rods, without at all checking its growth. In this case, a mass of frozen earth, twelve feet in diameter, was left attached to the trunk. The earth was dug out under one side at a time, to cut off the deep roots, and then filled in again. When it was all loosened in this way, the earth was beveled under the side towards its new location, and boards thrust under for it to slide upon. Other boards were then laid at the end of these to form a floor for it to be moved over. A mass of straw was put around the trunk and bound on with heavy ropes. To these ropes a chain was then attached, and three yoke of oxen hitched on. A number of men took hold of ropes, previously fastened to the limbs, and kept the tree upright while drawn to its new position, when it was lowered into a ready-prepared excavation. This was in 1842, and the noble elm has ever since flourished. A house stands upon its old site. As the neighbors lent a willing and free hand in the removal, the cost was trifling, while a hundred dollars would not have purchased the tree the summer after its removal. We have narrated this instance to show what may be done in extreme cases. We have seen scores of small and large trees transferred in mid-winter, from the forest to the door-yard, lawn and road side, with the best success, and we are not quite sure that this is not the best plan even for small trees, where the distance is not great. The great advantage of this method is that the frozen ball of earth retains the small roots, which are the real feeders of the tree, unbroken; and there is no check to the foliage or growth, and no loss of time. But this plan is not necessary. It is more agreeable to transplant trees during the warm comfortable weather of this month. Follow the suggestions given last month in full, which apply to shade and fruit trees, and there need be no fear of failure.

WHAT SHADE TREES TO SELECT.

We have a growing affection for the native trees of our own forests. We could not be tempted to exchange the long rows of symmetrical maples that stand upon each side of the street before our homestead. Anything else would now seem to be out of place. We should, perhaps, love them as well were they arching elms, or lindens, (basswood,) or any one of half a dozen native varieties.

But there are a large number of both native and imported trees which possess peculiar merits, and from which a selection may be made to suit the taste, circumstances, or locality of the individual planter of trees, or associations engaged in adorning streets or public grounds. Last year, with the assistance of some gentlemen of acknowledged taste and judgment, we prepared a carefully written article describing some of the best shade trees. We here republish a part of that article for the benefit of our present readers, who number four times as many as at this time last year.

A smaller class of trees is required for the streets of cities and compact towns, than for parks, and for more thinly settled villages, and the grounds surrounding rural residences, where there is abundance of room.

For compact streets, we recommend the following as among the best: Oriental Plains, Paulownias, Catalpas, and the Silver-Leaf Poplar.

The Oriental Plain is a pyramidal tree, with clean stem and foliage, is scarcely exceeded in the rapidity of its growth, and has as yet no insect enemy.

The Paulownia is of very rapid growth, has a large leaf, often two or more feet in diameter on young trees. We measured some of them the past season that were over two feet in diameter. The size of the leaves diminish with the growth of the tree. These leaves resemble the ordinary Palm leaf fan. The tree is perfectly hardy in this latitude, though introduced originally from the climate of Japan; and it is chiefly remarkable for the exceeding beauty of its flowers, which, before the leaves appear in the Spring, cover the trees in large clusters, from six to nine inches in length. The flowers are of a rich purple color, and fill the whole air around them with a fragrance. This tree bids fair to supplant the Ailantus, as it grows quite as rapidly, excels it in many things, and is without its objectionable features. At this season the buds present a beautiful appearance.

The Catalpa is more generally known, and need not be described. The only objection to this tree is that its "pods" or seed vessels furnish the rudiments of cigars to "Young America."

The Abele, or Silver-Leaf Poplar, grows as rapidly as any one of the others. The upper side of the leaf is of a rich dark green, the under side a silver white, and the contrast of these colors produces a pleasing effect upon the eye, when the leaves are set in motion by the wind. It is, however, only fit for paved streets, on account of the multitude of suckers it throws up from open ground.

For open streets and grounds the following list comprises the most choice collection; we place first in order those which we consider the best, all things taken into account: Silver-Leaf Maple, Oriental Plain, English and American Elms, Tulip-trees, Sycamore Maples, Sugar Maples, Pin Oak, Scarlet Oak, Burr Oak, Catalpa, Linden, Deciduous Cypress, Liquidambar or Sweet gum, Laburnum, Cucumber Magnolia, Kentucky Coffee-tree, &c. This list embraces all those recommended for streets, except the Silver-Leaf Poplar, which is left out for reasons given above. We omit the Evergreens, as we recommend setting them in Spring, unless it be done early in Autumn. Most of the above trees can be obtained of first-class nursery men, and they may all be set in Spring, but we prefer this season of the year, if it can be done before the ground becomes solid.

The Silver-Leaf Maple in its foliage somewhat resembles the Silver-Leaf Poplar, and is by many persons preferred to it. It is the most rapid growing of the Maples.

The other Maples are well known as strong robust growing trees, with thick, dense foliage, holding on to late in the Autumn; and they are among the most desirable of shade trees.

The Elms are well known—the American for its gothic arch, and the English for its dense foliage.

The Oaks are of a more slow growth, and are well known. The Pin Oak is the finest of them, on account of its pyramidal form, and glossy foliage.

The Linden, (basswood,) is known for its symmetry of form, and the Mountain Ash for its beautiful red berries.

The Deciduous Cypress has a soft feathery foliage, of a delightful light green, and very unique in its character. We recently noticed one of them in front of the residence of Mr. S. B. Parsons, of Flushing, L. I. The foliage, at this season, is of a rich maroon color, and contrasts finely with the green terrace near it.

The Liquidambar, or Sweet-gum, has a star leaf, which assumes a beautiful red tint in Autumn. This is one of the finest *native* trees, and is not half as well appreciated as it should be.

The Laburnum is noted for the abundant clusters of rich yellow flowers with which it is clothed in June.

The Cucumber Magnolia is a tall growing tree, with large leaves and symmetrical habit.

The Kentucky Coffee is a handsome tree, its light foliage somewhat resembling the Locust. It produces a bean which was used as coffee by the early settlers. (The flavor of the fruit from the cultivated tree is, in our opinion, *not* equal to that of Mocha or Old Java.)—Ed.

FARMERS' CLUBS.

The club room is among the prominent institutions of city life. Almost all trades, arts, and professions have their associations, and regular reunions, where social culture and enjoyment mingle with the discussion of their peculiar interests. There are objectionable proceedings no doubt, oftentimes, at these meetings, but these will always depend upon the character of the associated. That every pursuit should have its guild or association for the cultivation of fraternal feeling, and for the discussion of the principles and news which pertain to itself, we believe to be eminently praiseworthy and useful.

Such societies among farmers, until quite recently, have not been possible, except in favored localities, because it was thought that this calling had neither science or news to discuss. The oldest inhabitant in the rural districts saw nothing different in the husbandry of his old age, from that which prevailed in his youth. All was stereotyped from the "planting of corn when the white oak leaves were of the size of a mouse's ear," to its harvesting early in November. If in any calling Solomon's saying "There is nothing new under the sun," went unquestioned, it was among farmers. If they came together, it was for the discussion of scandal or politics, rather than to learn anything new in regard to the science or practice of husbandry.

But a new spirit is abroad among the cultivators of the soil, and farmers' clubs are no longer a doubtful experiment. They have been tried in many localities, and have been found not only interesting and profitable to their immediate members, but to furnish valuable information to the public through the agricultural press. It is now felt among the best cultivators, in almost every community, that agriculture is still an experimental art, and that the man most thoroughly booked up in all the details of the business, is probably ignorant of much more than he *knows*, of matters pertaining to husbandry. Farmers have become learners, and receive with eagerness all new crops and new methods of cultivation, that promise to be improvements.

We think the time has come when the club will be appreciated among farmers, and when the leading men in every neighborhood should seek to establish a stated meeting for mutual improvement in the cultivation of the soil. There is now not only a great deal of information to be gathered from the agricultural press, that would be available in such meetings, but every such neighborhood would glean from the field of its own operations, new facts, that would be of service to the science of husbandry. No intelligent tiller of the soil, who observes closely the phenomena of animal and vegetable growth, can fail to find many things in his own practice, from year to year, that will be of great advantage to his fellow cultivators.

Farmers' clubs are an important means of self-culture. The weekly or monthly discussion would draw out of every member the narrative of his own experience in husbandry. It would tend to form the habit of ready public speaking, which is of great service to every citizen, and a talent too little cultivated among farmers. They have rarely attempted it, and are scared at the sound of their own voices, even in a meeting in the district school-house. But crops and stock are matters on which they are so well posted, that they could have no lack of material, or of interest, and out of the abundance of the heart the mouth would speak. This habit once formed, would soon show itself in other pursuits, and if it became general, it would greatly increase the influence of farmers as a class in the community. It is important that they should learn to talk as fluently, and as much to the point, as any other class of men.

The club, too, would have a very happy social influence, especially if the meeting should be held at the several houses of the members in regular succession, and if the wives and daughters should form a part of the company. This element mingles too little in farm life. They often live remote from neighbors, are pressed with business, and find it difficult to make a call with no special object in view. In the club, business and social pleasure could be united, and its influence would soon be seen in healing old feuds, and in brightening old friendships.

The meetings would add much to the stock of information among the members. We rarely spend ten minutes in conversation with a farmer, or visit a garden, where we do not learn something that proves of service to us in our own cultivation. The experience of every tiller of the soil is useful to his neighbor just as he becomes acquainted with it. There are a great variety of pursuits among cultivators. Some make a specialty of stock-raising, others of fruit-growing, and others still follow a varied course of agriculture. Some give themselves wholly to farming, while others follow a profession or mechanical art, and simply till a garden. The club would bring all these classes together, and elicit the information which each possessed for the common benefit of the whole. Each has observed something which his neighbor has overlooked, or has never had the opportunity of observing. The pastor has found a new remedy for the pear slug, and the lawyer has outwitted the curculio and trapped him at last. The stock-grower has treated the horn-ail and the horse distemper successfully, and the dairyman tells us the secret of the fine cheese which always brings an extra price. It would be impossible for such a company to meet together for the winter, without mutual improvement.

Besides this, the club, if followed up, would beget a habit of careful observation, which is very much wanted upon the farm, as in all other callings. The man accustomed to hear the results of the observation of others, and to profit by it, would not fail to open his own eyes, and watch the the signs of the times in his fields and among his stock. *The fact that we have occasion to use knowledge, leads to its acquisition.* There many unsettled questions in husbandry, that would soon be investigated in the field, if there was a community of interest in the undertaking. Twenty or thirty farmers associated for a common object, would accomplish much more in the study of the science of their calling, than the same number of minds working alone.

In every respect, we think, such clubs would have a most happy influence upon all the members, and upon the farming interest. The time has already come to begin them, and a smart, enterprising farmer, cannot do a better work than to start a club in his own district. If you can find a half dozen to organize with, it is enough. If you cannot find any better place of meeting, take the school-house, which serves almost every good purpose in the country. It may as well be a school for the fathers, as for the children. Never mind anything about the constitution or by-laws. The less formal the meeting can be made the better. A few rules are well enough, but are not at all essential. If you can arrange to take a large number of papers devoted to rural affairs, and exchange them among the members, it will be well enough. But the main thing is the regular meeting for the discussion of some topic, designated before hand, so that all can gather their thoughts, and be prepared for the discussion. Reader, will you not try to start a club in your neighborhood?—Ed.

WHAT SHALL BE DONE WITH THE MICE?

The amount of injury done to fruit trees by mice during last winter is almost incredible. All through the summer, report after report has reached us of large flourishing orchards almost entirely destroyed by these wily depredators. There has been little noise and excitement on this subject, owing to the circumstance that the extent of the mischief has been but gradually developed. Even where the barking of the trees was above ground so as to be readily seen, most orchardists hoped to save many of their trees by applying various substances, and they have been loth to come to the conclusion that their favorite fruit trees, so long nursed with assiduous care, were really destroyed beyond recovery. But the progress of the Summer has proved that the fatal teeth of the depredators penetrated deeper than usual towards the life wood of the tree.

But the injury last Winter was, in very many cases, different from anything experienced in former years. Thousands of trees were gnawed *below* the surface of the ground, while heretofore the bark has only been eaten off above ground. Last week we called upon a friend who is noted as a fruit grower. For a dozen years or more he has been preparing large orchards, stocking them with the best kinds of fruits. One year ago he had over *one hundred and thirty acres* of choice trees, most of them just at the right age to yield remunerative crops, and he had looked for the product as a source of income for the rest of his life, now somewhat advanced. Last Winter the *mice* ruined nearly the whole of this finest single collection of trees in the country. The loss, not only to the proprietor himself but to the community, is irreparable. At least fifteen years would be required to rear other orchards to the same condition, and this will not now be attempted—or not until some sure safeguard against another like destruction shall be discovered.

We have given an outline of one case, to us the more striking as it came under our own immediate observation. But there are thousands of other cases, individually less in importance than the above, but in the aggregate of very serious moment. We learn that the mice are now in the fields in great numbers, and that there is a prospect of extended ravages the coming Winter. The question now is,

What shall be done with the mice?

We have had remedies proposed by the dozen, but none of them will be effectual, because they refer only to the protection of the tree above ground, whereas much injury was done last Winter both to the main stock below the surface, and to the roots. We were recently asked to examine a couple of sickly looking trees to ascertain what was the matter with them. Observing mice holes at a little distance from the trunk, we dug away the earth around the roots, and found the tap root gnawed half away and entirely dead, while most of the side roots were also dead from the same cause. We doubt not that a large number of similar cases will be found elsewhere. Now tar, salt, lime, ashes, turpentine, assafœtida, &c., upon the trunk, removing the snow as fast as it falls, or packing it down solid, will none of them answer in such cases? Can any of our readers suggest anything that will? We solicit replies to this question at an early day, that, should any feasible plan be suggested, we may publish it in our next in time to be available the present season.

Why were the mice so destructive last Winter?

This has been accounted for by the fact that there was an unusually large body of snow around the trees during several months. But this will not account for the abundance of mice, as these animals cannot nest and breed in a snow-bank. So far as we can learn, in those localities where the chief injury was done, the heavy snow of last Winter was not preceded by any rain, but it fell upon dry ground after the unusually long dry season in November and December. The soil was so warm and free from water, and was so thoroughly protected by dry snow, that the mice were able to burrow in it and breed during the entire Winter. It is well known that these animals multiply very rapidly, and quickly arrive at maturity when in good quarters. A single pair finding their way into a house, will in a few months completely overrun it. This will account for the immense numbers of them produced last Winter. For a time they found the usual sustenance in seeds, &c., in the soil, but owing to their great numbers, and the long continuance of the snow, they were driven to attack not only the roots of fruit trees but,also of shade trees, and shrubbery of various kinds. We have heard of whole hedges of the Osage orange, and also currant bushes, blackberry, raspberry and strawberry plants being destroyed. The mountain and prickly ash, beach, maple, elm and other shade trees, and even evergreens were also attacked.

Should the ground fill with water this Fall before freezing, the ordinary methods of protecting trees will doubtless suffice, but we need some method to resort to in a season like last year. Who will suggest an effectual one ?

Trapping Mice.—The number of mice may be very materially reduced by trapping them. They are very readily caught. The little wooden traps, with a spring yoke rising over a round hole in the side, can be bought very cheaply. They are retailed for about three cents each when having but one hole, and for six cents with two holes. Two to three dollars will purchase a hundred of the single hole traps. These baited with a bit of cheese, or cheese-rind, and distributed around an orchard, will thin out the mice very rapidly. We have a lot of them about the dwelling, garden, &c., and find them more effectual, and less annoying, (especially o'nights.) than a gang of cats.

Shielding the Trunks.—A subscriber of Clermont, Columbia Co., N. Y., after speaking of the extensive ravages in his own neighborhood, where much fruit is grown, says: A neighbor of mine suggests buying roofing tin, and cut each sheet, lengthwise, into two pieces. Bend one of these pieces around the base of each tree. This will protect them eighteen inches above the ground. The tin cases can be bent larger or smaller to suit the size of the tree. The cost would only be about six dollars for two hundred trees, and the same tins would answer for a succession of years, as they could be taken up and housed each Spring.

Another old plan is to tie rags to small sticks and dip them in melted sulphur and set one up at the base of each tree. We doubt very much whether mice are afraid of sulphur in any shape.—[Ed.

Lost! Yesterday, somewhere about sun set, two golden hours, set with sixty diamond minutes. No reward is offered, for they are gone forever.

ICE-HOUSE—HOW TO BUILD A CHEAP ONE.

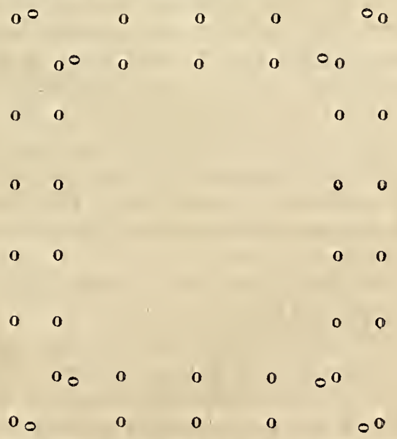
Several subscribers inquire how to construct a *cheap* ice-house. It is not difficult nor expensive to build one large enough to supply all the demands of any single family. A small room, in a shady location, with dry bottom and sides, filled in with powdered charcoal, or tan-bark, or saw-dust, is about all that is required.

Those having a large cellar may appropriate a part of it for an ice-room, if there be drainage at the bottom to carry off surplus water. Make a double bin, with at least a foot space between the boards forming the sides, and fill the space with tan-bark or saw-dust. Dry pounded charcoal is still better if it can be obtained. The cellar walls may form a part of the outside walls of the ice-room, but a considerable thickness of the non-conductors—tan-bark or saw-dust, must be put between the walls and ice. The doors to such a room should be double. Loose boards laid down upon timbers, and a coat of straw one foot in thickness, will suffice for the bottom. Pack in the ice closely, filling the chinks with snow or pounded ice, and put plenty of saw-dust around the sides, so that the whole shall be solid. Cover the top with a foot or more of saw-dust or straw, which will settle down as the ice melts or is removed. If care be taken to admit as little air as may be, and the room be ten to twelve feet square, it will keep well all Summer.

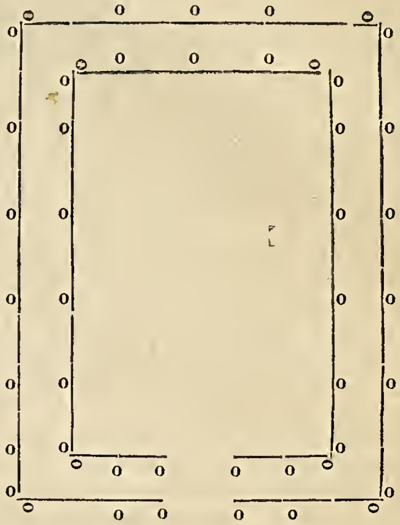
We have heard of an ice-house constructed nearly like the above, only that it was sunk down four feet below the cellar bottom, and five feet above. The top was a sort of double-decking, with a foot of tan-bark between the boards forming it. The top of this served as a large milk shelf. This arrangement may work well if a good drain beneath the whole carries off all water. Such an ice-room may be easily constructed in connection with a milk house, or on the north side of a bank or hill.

Usually, however, we should advise to erect an ice-house above ground, say on the north side of a building or of a hill, or where it will be shaded by trees as much as may be.

For the outside walls set up a double row of posts or scantling, thus:



These posts are to be of durable wood, with the inner sides hewed or sawed straight, to admit boards being nailed upon them. They must set firmly in the ground, and extend as high as may be needed. They may be set two or three feet apart in the row, the rows having a space of 15 to 20 inches between them. They are to be sawed off square at the top, all of an equal hight; then nail boards or planks on the inside of the two rows, thus:



Make a double door upon the side opening. Fill up the space between the boards with powdered charcoal, tan-bark or saw-dust, packing it in well.

Nail or spike a plate upon the top of each row of posts, and fasten the rows together by cross-pieces. Joists are also to be put across, to hold an upper floor, as well as to keep the sides from spreading.

A steep roof should be put up, the rafters extending over the eaves and sides of the building three or four feet, to shade the walls and carry the rain away from them.

For a floor, put down timbers of any kind, and lay on loose planks or boards, and cover a foot or more thick with straw. See that there is sufficient drainage under the floor to carry off all water running down.

As soon as solid clean ice, a foot more or less in thickness, can be obtained, saw it into square blocks as large as can be handled conveniently, and pack it into the room upon the straw as closely as may be, filling in all the chinks with snow or pounded ice. If in very cold weather, a little water thrown in will freeze and make the whole room solid. Be careful to have the space between the mass of ice and the wall well filled in with pounded ice, snow, straw or saw-dust.

When the whole is filled nearly to the joists, put upon top of the ice a quantity of saw-dust or straw, and lay down an upper floor, upon which also should be put another layer of saw-dust, tan-bark or straw, one foot or more deep. It is well also to have an air-hole through the upper floor and roof, with a covering to shed off rain.

The larger such a building is made, the better the ice will keep. A room twelve to fifteen feet square, and eight to twelve feet high, will be large enough for all the wants of a large family, or two or three small ones combined.

The above general outline is in part derived from observation, and in part from Allen's Rural Architecture, in which cuts and full details are given. This work contains very many valuable hints in reference to all kinds of farm buildings. It is published by C. M. Saxton & Co. Price $1. We can procure a copy for any one desiring, and send it post-paid, for $1.—Ed.

MORE ABOUT THE CHINESE SUGAR CANE.

Last month we alluded to our trial of this new plant, now generally called Sorghum Saccharum, or for brevity Sorghum.* We promised to distribute the seed among our subscribers, but unfortunately a part of the plants were killed by the severe early frost on Oct. 16, so that we shall have but a limited quantity of our own raising for distribution. We expect, however, to procure a supply of seed from others, so as to scatter small samples pretty widely over the country. As previously stated, we did not plant until the last of May, and that on poor soil. Others in this latitude, who planted earlier, have ripened it well.

Our correspondent I. H., (see page 325,) says cattle will not eat it. We do not understand this. Other reports are quite to the contrary. The full-grown canes are doubtless too hard to be eaten well by cattle without cutting or grinding; but one characteristic of this plant is, that if cut down when three or four feet in hight it will send up a great number of new shoots. We still think it will prove highly valuable to sow thickly for fodder.

Will it be valuable for sugar?

On this point the experiments are not yet sufficiently numerous or definite. During the past month we have watched carefully for any new light. We now incline to the opinion that the Sorghum Saccharum will not only prove profitable for sugar-making, but that it will, in a measure, take the place of the sugar-cane itself. How far north it may be grown for this purpose is yet to be determined.

Mr. R. Peters, of Atlanta, Geo., has experimented largely the present season, and is so well convinced of its superiority to the old sugar-cane, that he intends to plant a large surface next season. One decided advantage is, that it can be raised from the seed in a period of less than five months, while double that time is required for the sugar-cane, which renders it very liable to be killed by the frost.

We do not learn that crystalized sugar has yet been produced, but an excellent syrup or molasses has been made, and a method of crystalizing it will doubtless soon be discovered. Mr. I. H. says the juice emitted an offensive odor when boiling. He should have added a small quantity of lime, which would not only have prevented this odor, but would also have increased the quantity of molasses. Before another Autumn we shall be able to give the most approved quantity of lime.

Everything considered, we advise a pretty general trial of the Sorghum next season. A small quantity of seed sown in a drill, or planted in hills, will require but little care or expense. There is no necessity for paying much for the seed. It is now pretty well scattered over the country. If we can get seed at any price, we shall send enough for trial, free of charge, to as many of our regular subscribers as desire it, on their forwarding a stamped envelope, redirected to themselves, so that we shall only have the trouble of putting in the seed, sealing, and sending to the Post-Office. Directions for cultivation will be published in one of the Spring numbers of the Agriculturist, in time for planting.—[Ed.

TIM BUNKER IN TALL CLOVER.

THE FAIR, AND HOW HE TOOK THE PRIZES.

"Taking in your squashes then, this morning, Esq. Bunker," said Seth Twigs, as he looked over the garden fence, and saw Tim very busy. The smoke curled up from his pipe, and both hands were thrust into his waistcoat pockets, as he stood with his weight poised upon one leg, and both ears opened.

"O, it is you, is it Seth," said Tim, as he deposited the last squash in the basket. "Did you hear how I came off at the fair yesterday?"

"Not exactly. I kind 'o thought it wouldn't be strange if them carrots of you'rn got a premium."

"Carrots, man! why I made a clean sweep, and got a premium on everything I carried. Had the grandest time, I and my family, ever experienced. You ought to have been there Mr. Twigs, to see Hookertown in its glory. First, you see our town train was made up of seventy-one yoke of oxen, besides Jim Latham's steer train of five yoke, which the Committee said would not count. This was bigger than anything upon the ground, and took a prize. Then Deacon Smith's fat pair of cattle, that weighed five thousand pounds upon the hoof, could not be beat. He also had some South Down wethers that weighed near two hundred a piece, and were said to be the finest fat sheep ever exhibited in the State.

"But I was going to tell you how our folks come out. You see Mrs. Bunker's big squash, that grew there in the carrot bed, beat everything in the vegetable line for size. There was a fellow up from Shadtown, on the river, that tho't he was some punkins. But, la suz, Seth, his squash could not hold a candle to ours, by sixty weight. He said he manured with fish, and calculated he should make a clear sweep on the vegetables, squashes in particular. The fellow got a premium on potatoes, which seemed to comfort him some."

"Whurra for our side!" exclaimed Seth, swinging his beaver.

"But I hain't done with the women yet. You see our Sally made up a batch of bread out of the new wheat that I raised on Stone Hill. It was ground over to the city, so that the whole stuff was Connecticut manufacture, from top to bottom,—wheat, flour, yeast, and the girl that made it. And who'd 'a thought, Seth, that same loaf of bread took the premium."

"Didn't the gal blush when it was read off?" inquired Seth.

"I shouldn't wonder if she did; but whether it was about the bread, or one of the ministers that was on the Committee, I couldn't say. They do say that the young man they have just settled in Shadtown, is mighty fond of exchanging with our man, and that Sally's singing is very much to his mind. But that had nothing to do with the premium, for it never got round that the bread was made of Connecticut flour, until after the premiums were read off. Then, you see, I let the cat out of the bag, and told them that No. 5 was made out of our home-made flour by our Sally.

"John's onions, too, came out just as they were labeled, No. 1, and the boy has got the money for them in his pocket. His Bramen geese were the largest exhibited, and the white Dorkings could not be beat. You know our Suffolk pigs; I had them all washed up the day before the fair, and they were clean enough to go into the pork barrel all alive. They were the best lot exhibited.

"There was a good deal of competition on the vegetables. One man brought a hundred varieties, and another ninety-one. My carrots were hard run, and the Committee declared that they were a good deal bothered to know how to decide, and I guess they were so. But you see my star was in the heavens that day, and my carrots took the prize. That is what I call doing pretty well. But it isn't a circumstance to what I shall do next year. I'm bound to lay myself out at the next fair. I wish I could get my American Agriculturist for the full year, right off, so as to have all the good hints it gives, before hand, to be thinking ov. But, howsumever, everything comes along about in its season, so I'll keep watch of the numbers which come the first of every month. I say, Seth, you must subscribe right off now. You needn't wait till January, for the Editor has some notion of his about having all subscribers end with each year, and he says all new subscribers who begin now will be charged nothing for the November and December numbers. That'll be so much clear gain. Why, I wouldn't take a dollar for them two numbers alone."

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS FOR 1857.

The Agricultural Shows and the "Agricultural" Horse-races are nearly over for the season. We are advised of only three yet to be held, viz.: the State Exhibition of Alabama, at Montgomery, Nov. 11th to 14th; of South Carolina, at Columbia, Nov. 11th to 15th; and of S. C. Institute, at Charleston, Nov. 17th to 22d.

American Herd-Book, Vol. III.—Those who have addressed inquiries to us, are informed that it is proposed to issue the 3d Volume, May 1st, 1857. All pedigrees to be entered must be sent in before Dec. 1st, 1856. A circular giving full particulars can be obtained by addressing the editor—**Lewis F. Allen**, at Black Rock, Erie Co., N. Y.

---

*The literal meaning of Sorghum Saccharum is *broom-corn sugar-cane*—the plant resembling broom-corn in appearance, and sugar-cane in the sweetness of its sap or juice. The words are pronounced sor-gum sak-ka-rum, both words being accented upon the first syllable.

LIGHTNING RODS.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

I send you three new subscribers, and wish I could send you more, for I think your paper indispensible in my small farming. I am satisfied it has made me $25. Will you tell us in your next, if No. 1 wire will do for lightning rods, and if not why?

Yours Truly,
Wm. Henry Maxwell.
Jonesborough, East Tenn., October 2, 1856.

The above is given as a specimen of hundreds of encouraging letters received quite recently. Many put the profit derived from the paper at a still higher figure.

We think No. 1 iron wire too small for a safe lightning rod. If of copper, it might do, but copper costs several times as much as iron, and it is therefore better to get iron of larger size. No. 1 wire is about five-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, or a little more than a quarter-inch. When a rod is well pointed and kept bright, it will usually draw off electricity from a cloud *gradually*, and generally one but half the size of No. 1, would suffice to conduct away the charge from a cloud. But a large, heavily charged cloud, moving rapidly, would be likely to furnish sufficient electricity to *melt* a small rod. We have several times melted a wire larger than a large knitting needle with the electricity from an electrical apparatus of our own construction. Not only is there danger that a small lightning rod will be melted, but, from its want of capacity to conduct to the earth all the electricity of a large cloud, a part of the charge is quite likely to diverge from it and enter some part of the building. We have heard of such instances, and also of a building being set on fire by the red-hot molten iron of a small rod.

We put up a rod upon our own dwelling in August last, which is constructed thus: A half-inch iron rod is made very pointed at the upper end, and plated with silver from the point downwards about eight inches. A single point only is used, which stands over the center of the house and reaches twelve feet above the highest point of the roof or chimneys. No chimney is distant more than 14 feet from its base. Three small "slanting" wooden braces, touch the rod about five feet above the roof and prevent it from blowing over. It is bent at the base in a gradual curve—not a short angle which would make it a poorer conductor—and it is then carried along the roof and over the corner with another long curve, and thence down into the moist earth. The end is finally carried into a cistern, and terminates in the water at the bottom The reason for carrying it first into moist earth is to still have it in connection with the ground, if the cistern should chance to be dry. The supports on the roof and sides of the building are glass thimbles clasped in an iron staple somewhat like the letter P. The necks of common junk bottles will answer very well for the glass thimbles. They may be held in wooden supports as well as in iron staples.

A continous rod, with no joints from top to bottom, is much the best. If separate pieces are used they should be welded together, or at least well locked and twisted so as to furnish a good connection at the joints. Our own rod consists of several pieces which go together with screws. The connecting piece is an inch in diameter, three inches long, and hollow. The thread of the screw at either end is cut in different directions which permits joining the rods by simply turning the joining piece. This is a simple and perfect arrangement, and the rod can be taken down and put up in a few minutes.

Many or few Points.—For a very large building, several points furnish a greater protection than one single rod.

One side of a very compact cloud may pass near the corner of a building and discharge its electricity through it to the ground. In this case the single rod in the center of the building would be too distant to draw of the charge. In almost all cases, however, some part of the cloud will pass over a central rod. After considerable investigation of this subject we think the plan we have adopted the cheapest, and sufficiently safe for any building of ordinary dimensions. The main thing is to carry it sufficiently high. The rule generally laid down is, that the horizontal distance from the rod to any point to be protected should not be greater than twice the hight of rod above that point. Thus: if a rod be erected 20 feet from the top of a chimney it should extend ten feet higher than the chimney. While about it, it is quite as well to make the proportional hight somewhat greater than this.—Ed.

STONE WALLS—TO PREVENT THEIR FALLING IN WINTER.

A correspondent asks, "How shall we keep our stone walls from being thrown down by frost the coming winter?" If properly built at first, there would be no danger of their falling; rather, we should say if properly *placed* they would not fall. They are displaced by the action of frost, not upon the walls nor upon the soil itself, but upon the water saturating the soil. All solid bodies contract more or less in cold weather, but in a stone wall or in *dry* earth, the contraction or change of bulk is not sufficient to displace even a loosely built wall. Water, on the contrary, expands largely in freezing. Eight barrels of water will yield nine barrels full of ice. Take a barrel three feet high, put into it 32 inches in depth of water, then allow it to freeze and the barrel will be just full. Precisely the same result would be obtained if 32 inches of a mixture of soil and water had been used instead of water only. But put in dry earth and the expansion or increase of bulk will scarcely be perceptible.

Just so the soil under a wall, when saturated with water, will expand an eighth of its bulk in freezing, and raise the wall by so much. If now one side thaws before or faster than the other, that side of the wall will settle down more rapidly, and the chances are that the whole will be displaced and perhaps tumbled down.

The remedy is simple. Run a drain or ditch near the wall, deep enough to render the soil under it dry to as great a depth as the frost will penetrate, and unless very carelessly built, there will be no danger of the stones tumbling down.

It is better to erect a stone fence upon a ridge of dry land at first, than to dig a foundation in a wet surface. If the latter course is pursued, the damp earth upon either side will expand and contract unequally, and throw down the best constructed stone wall.

The same is the case with posts set in a wet soil. Freezing elevates the frozen earth, and as this is solid around the post it will raise it out of the unfrozen soil below, but it will not usually settle back again when thawing takes place. A few successive freezings and thawings will ultimately raise the posts entirely above the surface, when they will fall over. This can only be remedied by draining off the water.

In the erection of foundation walls for buildings in wet ground, it has been recommended to build open spaces in them and set in perpendicular blocks of wood upon which the sills may rest, and to fill in around these with tan bark, gravel or coarse sand. This plan will answer a good purpose if the filling around the supporting blocks be kept *dry*, and not otherwise.—Ed.

AN EXPERIMENT WITH A SALT MARSH.

CAPITAL WELL INVESTED—A GOOD EXAMPLE.

The communication of our correspondent 'Inquirer,' in our last issue, opens a subject of great importance to our shore farmers. There are thousands of acres all along the coast, from Maine to Florida, bearing now nothing but poor salt hay that hardly pays for cutting, that might be brought into beautiful upland meadows, at a very small expense. Almost every small creek or brook, emptying into the sea, is bordered by extensive marshes near its mouth, that only wait for a little skill and capital to make them largely productive. These marshes, vary in extent from a few acres to several thousand, and in quality from a quagmire yielding only coarse flags, to a close smooth turf, yielding black marsh hay. They are for the most part perfectly level, and free from stones, and already so hard as to admit of driving a loaded team over them, in the summer. They are the kind of land adapted to the mowing machine, and in all efforts at reclaiming them, it should be kept in mind, that they are to be mowed by horse-power.

We have just visited one of these meadows, reclaimed two years since, and which already has paid the whole expense of its improvement. Though the experiment has not been long enough to determine the practicability of raising grain crops, and other matters of interest, still it demonstrates the economy of shutting off the sea water. Following the order of our correspondents enquiries, we will give a brief outline of our friend's experiment.

LOCATION.

The meadow consists of thirty acres, and lies upon both sides of a little creek, emptying into one of our large navigable rivers, some five miles from its mouth. This creek breaks through a high ridge just before it enters into the large river, making a narrow ravine, very convenient for an embankment at small expense.

ORIGINAL CONDITION.

Before the improvements, the tide flowed twice a day into the creek, and at all high tides, the meadow was flooded. Of course only the flags and coarse grasses that love salt could flourish. A large part of the meadow was annually mowed, though only a small part of it was solid enough to admit of carting off the hay with a team. The creek flowed through, directing its current to every point of the compass, and wasting a great deal of land in its windings and quagmires. The difficulty of cutting and carting the hay, and its poor quality made it almost profitless to the owner. He was glad to sell it at twenty dollars an acre, and, considering that it never paid him the interest on ten, it was probably the best bargain he ever made, when he sold it.

THE EMBANKMENT

is made in the most thorough manner. It consists of double walls some twelve feet apart, and filled in with earth. On the inside of the embankment runs a row of plank, driven deep into the mud, and fastened, so that no water can get through, except at the culvert. As the embankment was but a few rods in length, it was not a very expensive job. We think it is always wise to do this part of the work in the most thorough manner, as the whole improvement will be worthless unless the sea water is effectually shut out. Stone upon the outside, and plank upon the inside will make the tank safe against water and muskrats, the original proprietors of salt marshes.

CULVERT AND TIDE GATE.

The culvert is made of heavy plank, running the whole width of the dam, and about six feet wide. It is made perfectly tight, so that all the water is compelled to flow through it. At each end of the culvert, is a strong bulk-head, and at the bottom a tide-gate the whole width of the flume. The gates are some two feet high, and hung upon strong iron hinges. The current of the creek pushes them open, and the current of the tide shuts them, so that no salt water can flow in, or at least not enough to do any damage. While the tide is up, of course there can be no flowing out of fresh water, and all that runs in the stream accumulates in the ditches. In case of heavy rains, in the winter and spring, this will sometimes lead to an over flow, but in summer while the grass is growing the ditches will hold all the back water, and even in case of overflow the fresh water, lying upon the meadow an hour or two, would not damage the grass. But this will rarely happen, if the gates are made large enough.

DITCHING.

Our friend has straightened the creek in many places, and filled up the old channel. Besides this he has put in many side ditches and made the whole meadow so solid that a cart can be driven all over it. His idea was originally to put the whole into cranberries, but his unexpected success in raising hay will perhaps divert him from the cranberries. If the meadow remains permanently in grass, we think he has already more ditches than he needs. A ditch around the outside, and a main ditch through the middle in ordinary cases, will be enough to carry off the water. The small ditches are very much in the way of a mowing machine. If the object is to bring the meadow under the plow, and to raise root crops or grain, more ditching will be necessary. The drains should be as low as the bottom of the tide gate. If deeper than this, the banks will be more liable to crumble, and they will be kept clean with more difficulty.

BREAKING UP THE TURF.

He has not broken up much. A small piece of buckwheat looked well for a time, but there came a freshet in the large river, which of course made back water in the creek, and the overflow spoiled the buckwheat.

It will be seen in a communication elsewhere, from "EXPERIENCE," that he does not recommend plowing at all. If two or more tons of good English hay can be procured without it, it is unquestionably better to sow grass seed directly upon the sod.

SOWING GRASS SEED.

This is done with success upon upland at certain seasons of the year, and doubtless will succeed upon reclaimed marsh. This has not been done upon this meadow, for the character of the grass is changing without it. The flags have already vanished with the mire, and much of the three corned grass, which so abounds in these marshes, is giving place to more nutritious grasses. A kind of blue-top is coming in, in great abundance. It may be that the seed has been brought down from the upland meadows above, through which the stream runs, and was distributed over the marsh when it was over flowed. It will be safe for all experimenters to sow clover, herds grass, and red top. If they run a light horse harrow over it much of the seed will catch, and do well.

RESULTS.

Though no seed has been sown upon this meadow, the result has been highly satisfactory. He has cut about two tons to the acre upon this meadow, and the quality of the hay is excellent. It is eaten with great relish by all kinds of neat stock, and judging from the looks of the cattle, it is not deficient in nutriment. Our friend thinks it worth twelve dollars a ton.

His account with the marsh stands about thus:

Cost of 30 acres at $20 per acre	$ 600
Improvements	900
Making the capital invested	1500

His crop of hay for this season is about sixty tons, which at 12 dollars, is worth the snug little sum of..................$720
Deduct $3 per ton for harvesting...... 180

It leaves........................$540 as his annual interest upon a capital of $1,500. This is over thirty per cent interest. We see no good reason why it should not continue to be as productive for many years to come.

Now we wish to hold this up as a worthy example for those farmers to imitate, who are investing their capital in bank stock or in manufactures that pay only six or seven per cent. A farmer needs capital quite as much as any other business man, and he can only invest in other enterprises profitably, when he has all the capital that he needs to get maximum products from his fields. As a general rule, a competent business man will take better care of his capital than another can for him. A farmer who means to live, and accumulate, will be much more likely to do it in his business, than to invest his earnings elsewhere. What immense sums are every year lost to this calling, because farmers will speculate in bonds and stocks. Let the farmer stick to his plow, and hope to thrive only by it. If he has a swamp that needs draining, let him drain it. If he has a salt marsh that lies conveniently for diking, let him use his capital in building dikes and flood gates. If the work is thoroughly done, the money will be certain to come back again with a better interest, and with more security for the capital than any bank can give.

Our friend is a large farmer, and takes a lively interest in neat stock, horses, pigs, and poultry. He drains and subsoils, cleans out the rocks, and builds heavy walls, but no part of his operations gives so entire satisfaction as the reclaimed salt marsh. This is his pet achievement, and all his neighbors consider it a triumph. "INQUIRER" may safely go ahead with his undertaking, and if he attempts plowing, let it be only on a small scale. Grass is the great crop for reclaimed marshes.—ED.

RECLAIMING SALT MARSHES.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRIES IN OCTOBER NUMBER.

[The following answers are from a highly intelligent, practical man, who has had not a little experience with salt marshes. He has taken considerable interest in the subject and twenty years ago, when on the committee for revising the Statutes of Massachusetts, he was careful to introduce into the chapter on reclaiming swamps, a section on *Salt Marshes.* This law is still in force, though seldom *en*forced. By it, when swamps or marsh lands are owned in common, the majority can compel the minority to join in the work of reclamation, or submit to be taxed for the purpose by the county commissioners. As "EXPERIENCE" has a number of acres recovered from the inroads of the sea, we trust he will give a minute description of its former condition, exact method of constructing dams, gates, &c. A "word picture" of his plan would be interesting.—ED.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

I give an off-hand answer to Inquirer. I only wonder there are not more *enquirers* on this subject. My name is not essential to the article and you will please leave that out, as I do not seek notoriety.

"*The Embankment.*"—If your marsh is exposed to the sea, build a wall on the outside, and bank it within—(mine is wide enough for a cart path.) If there be no great pressure from tide, a bank and ditch may be sufficient. The ditch will furnish material, and cut sods from the marsh, built like mason work, will hold it together. Sloping on each side may be sufficient. I tried this twice and the tides washed it away. I then built of stone.

"*Culvert and Tide Gate.*"—Let a millwright build it well, so as to let the water run out, by forcing the gate open—and the tide returning, to keep the gate shut by pressure. Size depends upon the quantity of water to be discharged.

"*The Ditches.*"—Dig no more ditches than will drain the water into the brook (if one) or the main ditch. Leave these till you find how much water stands on the meadow. Remember you will cut the grass *by a machine*, and all interruptions must be avoided.

"*Breaking up.*"—Never plow it at all. If plowed at first the sod will be many years in rotting. (I tried this and caused myself much expense in levelling again with dirt.)

"*Upland Grasses &c.*"—The dyked marsh will double the quantity of salt hay, the first year. Keep sowing seed, as soon as the weeds begin to grow, and time will cover the whole. Nothing will grow but grass, worth having, for you must not plow for years if ever.

"*Results, &c.*"—I have cultivated—or rather taken a crop of two or more tons per acre of best English hay from my marsh, for years, and the pasture holds out late. I know not much of fresh water swamps, but my experience on salt marsh is entirely satisfactory. It is sorrowfully true that very little is written on this subject. Yet there are enough worthless salt marshes on our sea-board to feed thousands of cattle, that may be reclaimed at very small expense.

Even while the marsh remains salt, the double supply of *ameliorated* hay will well repay the labor in many places, and by degrees and constant sowing, the best grasses will gradually root out the old covering.

I had my marsh turfed the first year one to two inches deep, by a knife made for the purpose. This was heaped up and dried, then burned. A small spot sown with clover where the ashes were spread, produced a fabulous crop. The alkali corrected the sourness of the land; and as the clipping was all fibre, the ashes were abundant. This cost about $25 per acre, by the job. It may be too much expense, but it worked well. I now occasionally manure the land as I would other land, and consider it the cheapest meadow I have. I prefer stable manure, yet I have used guano with success.

EXPERIENCE.

In Prussia, for every time a child is absent from the public schools without a reasonable excuse, the parents are fined half a dollar. This law, after a number of years experience, is found to have the most beneficial effect.

A GOOD PLACE FOR CATTLE.—"It is said" that the cattle live so long out in Iowa that they have to put sticks on the end of their horns for the rings to run out on!

HINTS ON WINTERING BEES.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

In response to your request, I will offer a few suggestions on keeping bees during Winter, without stopping to give all the reasons for the positions assumed.

To ensure success, the first thing to be attended to is, to see that you begin the Winter with none but *good* stocks. It will not do to consider a stock good because it has thrown off swarms, stored surplus honey, &c.; but it is important to know its condition *now*. This must be learned by close inspection. Turn the hive over on a cool morning, so carefully as not to arouse the bees. Should they chance to be disturbed they may be quieted by tobacco smoke blown among them. The best stocks will show bees between nearly all the combs, unless the number of combs exceeds a dozen. Where they are found only between three or four combs, the most favorable circumstances will be required to get them through the Winter. Without superior accommodations such should be taken up, and thus save further trouble and vexation.

The brood combs of old stocks should also be examined, to see that they contain no foul or diseased brood. Such old stocks, when healthy, are just as good as young swarms, and will stand the cold even better.

As soon as the sunny days of Autumn are past, so that there is no danger of the bees being tempted out, the hives intended for Winter should be moved to their quarters, unless they already stand in a suitable place.

When but few are kept, it is generally advisable to winter in the open air. Choose a warm place in the sun, yes, in the sun, where it can strike the hive an hour or two each day.

Many people are alarmed at seeing a few bees lying dead upon the snow during Winter, and there is a prevalent idea that they get "snow-blind," and fall down to perish. This is an error, for a close examination will show that just as many perish upon the bare ground, only that they are not so readily seen as when on snow. I have frequently taken them out from their winter quarters in the house, when the snow covered the ground, in many places two feet in depth, and yet lost a less number than at many other times when the ground was bare.

A light snow, newly fallen, is somewhat fatal, should the next day or two be still and pleasant to tempt them out. If they settle on such snow, it will not support their weight,—they sink below reach of the sun, get chilled and perish. A hard crust or melting snow is "terra firma" to a bee. In case of a light snow put up a board to shade the hive, and should the air be sufficiently mild for them to leave when thus shaded, it will generally do to remove the board and allow them to fly—the majority will return. The entrance should be secured against mice, and yet allow sufficient ventilation, a greater amount of which is required than is usually supposed. Small pieces or strips of wire cloth, partially covering the entrance, are just the things. These should be fastened with carpet tacks in such a manner that the bees may pass, and still the mice not be admitted.

To get rid of the vapor that is continually passing off from the bees, which often moulds the combs and spoils the honey, make half-a-dozen or more inch holes through the top, and cover with an empty box, in such a way as to keep out rain, snow and mice.

When fully ventilated and secured from the mice, they may be covered two feet with snow and no harm will be done. A little snow only around the bottom, is not so well.

Where fifty or more stocks are kept, I would recommend a small, dark, warm room, or dry cellar. A much less number will not be likely to keep the temperature sufficiently high. Very little air admitted is sufficient. To get rid of the moisture, the hives should be turned bottom upward upon shelves, with little blocks under to raise them an inch from the shelf—the holes in the top being left open to allow free circulation of air. By having several tiers of shelves, one above another, a great many may be packed in one room; I have frequently put in two hundred on three tiers of shelves, in a room twelve by eighteen feet. That number will keep such a room above the freezing point at most times. But if the room cannot be kept uniformly warm by the number of stocks, or by other means, I prefer leaving bees out of doors, though housing is preferable with a large number.

M. QUINBY.

ST. JOHNSVILLE, N. Y., Oct. 1856.

FARMING IN HALLOWELL, MAINE.

JAVA WHEAT—THE APPLE CROP, ETC.

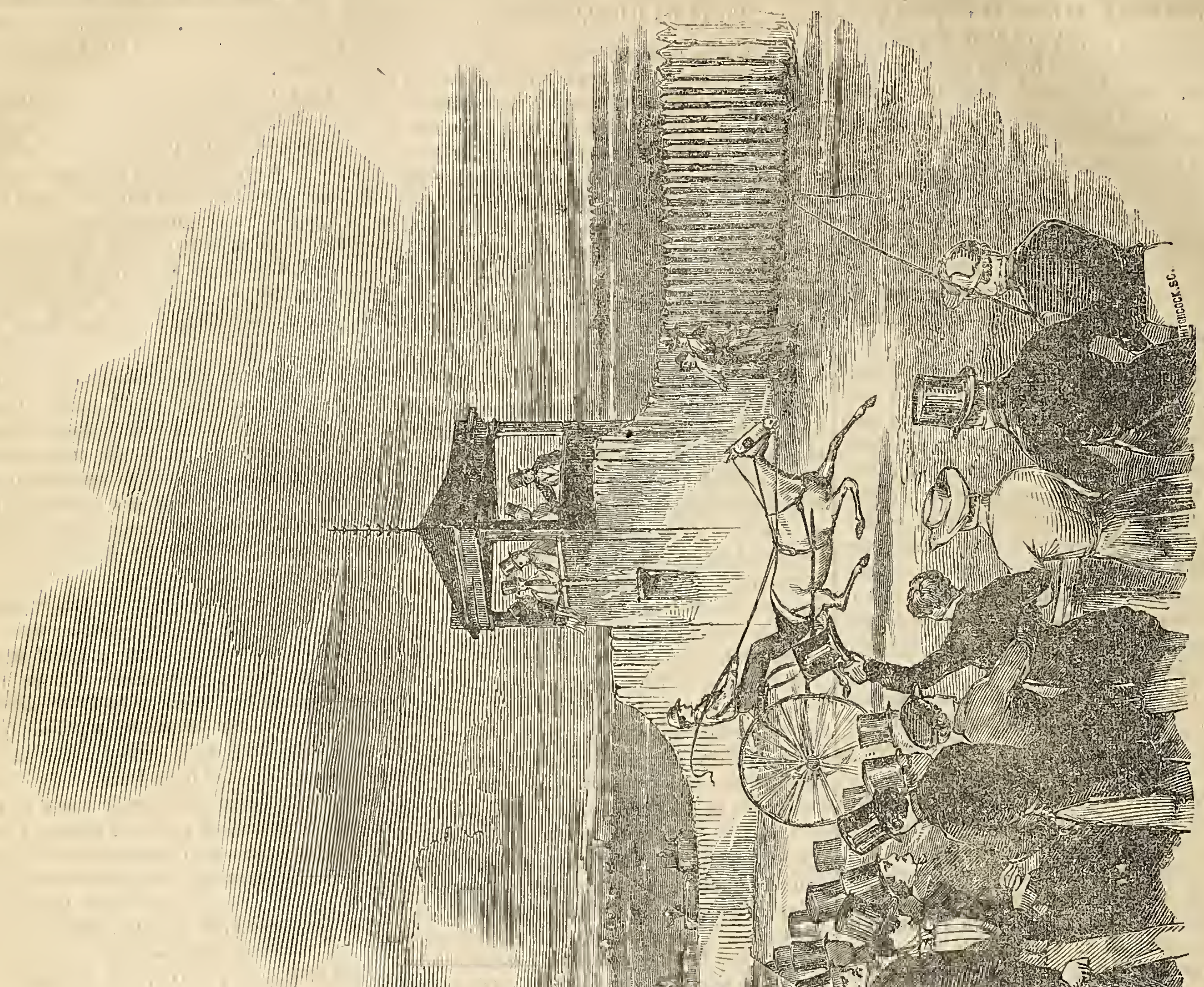
[The following extracts from a lengthy letter, are all we have space for.—ED.]

HALLOWELL, Me., Oct. 8, 1856.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

* * * Being young, and a new hand at writing, you will not expect from me great accuracy. * * The farmers hereabouts do not trouble themselves much about the nature or necessities of the soil, but are satisfied if they raise enough for their own consumption, and a little to sell. It is generally rocky, with a soil of red, or dark loam, and some fields of clay and sandy loam. But our soil is as good as any in the State, (except way "down east" in Aroostook County,) and had we a little more interest awakened among farmers, we might raise as great crops, and tell as large stories, as anybody. * * Much hay and grain was spoiled by the unusually wet season, but still the yield was above an average one. Oats and barley are most largely grown. * * Farmers fear the rust and weavil (Midge?) too much, to grow wheat extensively. Of the principal kinds of wheat grown here, the red-beard, the Canada, the Illinois, and the Java or Egyptian, the last named has done the best. Mr. Moses Taber, of Vassalboro, harvested 28 bushels of it to the acre. Others have raised 15 bushels to one of seed, and others less. * * The apple crop is the most profitable one here. We have a medium yield, and as they are scarce in many places, we are getting $2 25 to $2 50 per barrel. * *

W. P. A.


HITCHCOCK.SC.

An "Orthodox" Agricultural Exhibition in 1857.

SPAIN VS. THE UNITED STATES.

Spain.—It is said that the people of Spain have at last attempted a reform in agriculture, and that instead of their old races and bull fights, they have had a cattle show, which is to be triennial. A prize was awarded to an improved English Durham Bull. With great capabilities, Spain has remained in the rear in the march of improvement, but symptoms of her awakening are becoming apparent in railroads and manufactories, and at last in the substitution of the cattle show for the bull fight.

United States.—In this country we are also undergoing a change. Our agricultural exhibitions, which have been for a long time so useful, so honorable, and so popular, are fast being transformed into annual horse-races. If this state of things continue, we may next look for the introduction of annual bull fights. This will keep up the equilibrium—as Spain goes up we go down. [Ed.

Highly Important
AGRICULTURAL
Intelligence
By Magnetic Telegraph.

SPECIAL DISPATCH
TO THE
American Agriculturist.

INTERESTING (?) TO
ALL FARMERS AND AGRICULTURISTS.

Boston, Mass., Friday Evening, Oct. 24, 1856.

The Agricultural (?) Exhibition is going on finely. The best races in the country on hand. Side scenes specially interesting.

At 3 o'clock a grand trial between Ethan Allen and Hiram Drew, to wagons, took place, best three in five. Ethan Allen won the premium of $1,000, making the first heat in 2:46¼, and the second in 2:32¾. Hiram Drew behaved badly in both heats, breaking frequently, and was withdrawn after the second heat. Ethan Allen was then put round the course on time, and came in in 2:35.

A TRIAL OF THE SORGHUM.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

I have just read the hints to the farmers about sending their experience to the Agriculturist, and suiting the action to the word, I proceed to give my experience in the cultivation of Chinese Sugar cane. I sowed half an ounce of seed last spring, and gave it a good chance to grow and do its best. My object in trying the experiment was to raise it for green fodder for cows, but they invariably refuse to eat more than the leaves, although I have tried them at different stages of its growth for months past.

About a week ago we pressed out 50 canes and obtained about a pailful of juice. From this we obtained more than half a gallon of thick syrup of a sweet but not very pleasant taste. While boiling it emitted a very offensive odor, not unlike the rancid oily smell we sometimes observe in woolen manufactures. The outside covering of the stalk is too much like the cane or bamboo, for cattle to relish it much. It grows about twelve feet in hight, and when cut early it sprouts again like the cane of the south. I would like to hear the experience of others. My opinion is that there is not sugar enough contained in the juice to pay for the labor and fuel in boiling it. I. H.

North Hempstead, L. I., October 5, 1856.

WINTERING SHEEP.

With proper management, sheep are quite profitable stock to keep on a farm. In the summer season they feed where other stock would hardly live. On a summer fallow, they are decidedly an advantage to the farmer, by keeping the weeds and grass down, and thus putting to use what would otherwise be worthless. Sheep, however, should not be kept poor, for it is a fact known to every one that a small flock, well kept, is more profitable than a large flock poorly kept.

Wheat straw is excellent feed for sheep if it is cut early and properly cured. It should be foddered out regularly and enough, so that they can pick out the heads and such parts as they like, without being forced to eat the coarse straw. It is a good plan to sprinkle strong brine on the straw once or more each week; the sheep will eat it more readily. Bean straw, pea straw and buckwheat straw are first rate; if not threshed quite clean, all the better. They will eat most kinds of weeds, when cured with hay, and will be picked out in preference. Without much labor farmers could gather a good deal of feed for sheep in the course of the summer season, by cutting weeds and curing them for hay. Good clover is without doubt the best feed for sheep, it comes nearest to grass of any kind of fodder, and sheep should be fed with it, in the spring when they need the best, especially ewes with lambs; and it is also necessary to shelter them from cold storms.

EDITOR'S FARM NOTES.

OR GLEANINGS AMONG PRACTICAL MEN.

Hon. Jas. A. Bill's Farm at Lyme, Ct.—Farm Buildings—Ice Houses—Fences—Under-draining,—Planting Corn late, &c.

Every one who has sailed up the Connecticut River, has noticed the high rocky banks near the mouth along the east shore, and the picturesque country that lies beyond. It was among these rounded hills, strown with boulders, or bare in spots with the outcropping granite ledge, that our business as chairman of a committee to examine farms in New-London County, Ct., led us. North Lyme, is a good sample of a Conecticut agricultural parish. Its soil is of that rugged granitic character which requires frequent stirring, deep plowing, and draining to make it highly productive; methods which the fathers did not believe in, and which the sons are only beginning to learn. Of course such farms under the old regime did not yield a very bountiful support to those who wrought them, and the sons were forced into other callings as fast as they grew up. The parish has probably added nothing to its population for forty years, and perhaps has decreased in population, wealth, and influence. While the young men of the south parish have taken to the sea, and become celebrated in the commerce of the country as merchants, and captains, the young men of the north part of the town have taken to book agencies, and become well known as publishers. This has been a profitable business as they have followed it, and some have gained a competence in its pursuit. Mr. Bill, has been engaged in this business for some twenty years; and, yet a young man, has returned to the hill on which he was born, to cultivate its soil, to make its rough places smooth, its wet places dry, to drain its marshes, and to illustrate in his practice the economy of a generous outlay of capital upon farm improvements.

The farm upon which he has established himself is upon "Bill Hill," and lies adjacent to the old homestead, on which his father still lives. It consists of about 150 acres, which he purchased some seven years ago. This farm previous to its purchase had been rented for some thirty years, and of course was badly run down. The fences were in a dilapidated condition and fringed with briars and brush. The pastures were grown over with bushes, and the swamps filled with alders, and coarse weeds. The buildings were decayed, and every thing was in about as bad condition as it could be. So miserable were the returns from this farm while in this condition, that it rented for but fifty dollars, which shows that the capital brought but a trifle over three per cent under the old system of skinning the soil.*

FARM BUILDINGS.

New buildings were to be put up immediately as the basis of other improvements. The soil is naturally moist and springy, and in digging the cellar of the house it was necessary to cement the sides and bottom, in order to keep the water out. The cementing was done in the most thorough manner, and repeated several times, but without stopping the water. There was no remedy for this evil, until a drain was dug through the rock, to lead off the surplus water. Mr. Bill has come to the conclusion, that however valuable cement may be to keep water within a stone wall, it is not available to keep water out of such a wall. This experiment is worthy of notice by those who are building a cellar in springy soil. A dry cellar can only be had by drainage. The buildings lie upon the four sides of a square, the house in front, the ell and ice-house upon the right, the horse barn and carriage house upon the rear, the crib, stye, and barn upon the left. These, with two or three field barns for sheep and young cattle, constitute the buildings, and are kept insured for six thousand dollars. They cost much more. They are convenient, substantial, and are built much more for use than for show. The corn crib and swill-making apparatus, are over the piggery, and arranged so as to give the feed immediately from the swill room. This saves a great deal of time and labor in the course of a year. It would be interesting for those who have their pigstyes forty rods from the swill room, to estimate the amount of travel it takes to feed swine three times each day, for a year. In the old style of husbandry time and labor were the last articles a farmer thought of saving. They were always on hand and cheap. The barn of course has a cellar, the whole size of the building, and only needs sheds upon the walls of the yard to make it complete for saving the manure. As it is, there must be some loss of ammonia from the sun and rains. We were glad to find

---

* The Geology of this region may be interesting to some. The farm is nearly a mile from the river, and lies near the dividing line of two varieties of rock. The rock of the whole town belongs to the Eastern Primary formation. It is classified as granitic gneiss by Percival, and has several subdivisions. The rock of the South-east part of this Hill which we more particular examined is characterised by a predominance of reddish felspar. It includes not unfrequently, paralell beds of a fine grained, uniform red felspatic rock, with little appearance of paralellism in its structure, and also beds or veins of a coarse red felspar granite. Immediately west of this range and extending to the river is another in which the rock is dark mica seamed. Sub-granitic gneiss, occasionally sub-hornblendic. Beds of coarse white granite are frequently found and sometimes these have a distinctly porphyritic structure. The qualitity of the rock in both divisions indicates a good supply of potash in the soil. The whole region is deficient in lime; and this, in the shape of burnt oyster shells from Fair Haven, is probably one of the cheapest mineral amendments this farm admits of. The soil is of that character which will be immediately benefitted by deep and thorough tillage.

AN ICE HOUSE

among the buildings. Not one farmer in a hundred has this cheap comfort. It is so easily constructed, and so readily filled, and saves so many items in the course of a summer, that it is strange that so many farmers live without one. The important things to be secured in the construction of an ice house, are good drainage at the bottom, so that water shall not accumulate there; ventilation at the top to carry off heated air; and a perfect non conducting medium at the sides. It matters little what wall holds this medium. Stone, brick, coarse slabs, or smooth boards. A cube of twelve feet square will be ice enough for a family. Tan bark, saw-dust, charcoal are all good to stuff the walls with.

Ice water is so pleasant and healthful a beverage in summer, that no family having once enjoyed it will ever consent to go without it. The opinion which prevails in some parts, that it is prejudicial to health is without foundation. It is probably owing to some isolated cases of injury in consequence of an abuse of the article. It is almost as universal in the large cities as water itself, and no class of men better appreciate a glass of ice water than the guardians of the public health.

An ice box in the cellar, or at the door saves in meats, and in perishable fruits and vegetables, every season much more than the ice costs. Let every thrifty farmer build an ice house this fall, and fill it next winter.

FENCES.

These were models for all farmers, who have stony farms and plenty of capital. They are made of stone dug from the soil, and answer the double purpose of inclosing lots, and of making a market for the superabundant rock. Some of them are six feet thick, handsomely faced, and look like the foundation work of a fortification. The repairs have been very thorough on most parts of the farm, and more expensive walls have been built than we should recommend to farmers with small means. One two acre lot has been cleared and fenced at an expense of some $800, and even with this large outlay it pays a much better interest than when the whole farm was rented for fifty. The walls by the high-way, though not all so expensive as this, are well made and attractive in their appearance. In the back lots, the old walls have been re-set and in some cases removed, making the fields larger, which we regard as a very desirable improvement upon most farms.

UNDERDRAINING.

In the two acre lot, which we have noticed, Mr. Bill pointed out an under-drain nearly its entire length. The middle of the lot was formerly a swale, wet most of the time, and in the winter and spring, miry. The drain was dug five feet deep, and at the bottom a channel about a foot in width and the same in depth, was constructed of stone. The top was formed of flat stones, the interstices filled with cobbles, and then larger stones on top to the depth of two or three feet, and the drain filled in with surface earth. The drain empties at the lower part of the lot, and furnishes a living spring of excellent water, available at all seasons. The drain has completely changed the character of the lot. It is now always dry enough and yields abundant crops instead of stinted sour grasses. It produces the largest growth of corn, oats and hay immediately over the drain. The lot cuts now when in grass about eight loads of hay of the best quality, against one when it lay unimproved, in other words eight blades of grass grow for one.

This experiment has been so successful, that other similar improvements are projected upon the farm, and all the low wet places in the tilled land are bound to be drained.

STOCK.

This consists of 8 cows, 5 yoke of oxen, 15 head of young cattle, and about two hundred sheep. Hens are the only poultry allowed upon the place—the neighbors living too near each other to admit of keeping geese, turkeys, and ducks. The cattle are mostly grades, but embrace some fine animals. There were four calves, grade Devons, very handsome. Mr. Bill finds it profitable to raise his calves, both for his own farm, and to make beeves for sale to the butcher. In the interior of the country, young cattle are purchased mostly at Brighton, and after spending a few months upon the farm to fatten are resold for beef. He has South Down blood in his flock of sheep, and disposes of a large quantity of wool and mutton.

CROPS.

He has about nine acres in Indian corn of the large yellow dent variety. He plants about four feet each way, plows deep, manures heavy, cultivates thoroughly, keeps a flat hill, and gets great crops. There was one peculiarity in his corn planting, which confirms our own opinions and practice. He plants late, about the first week in June.

The advantages of this are a better setting of the young plants, less second planting, and less trouble in cultivation. The ground is then thoroughly warm, and the plants push along without any check, and mature as early as corn planted the first week in May. He thinks it saves the labor of once hoeing. From our own experience, and observation, we are persuaded it is idle to plant corn early in May, in latitudes north of this city.

Potatoes were formerly raised very largely for market in this vicinity, but they became so uncertain that the farmer only seeks to supply himself with this esculent. Mr. Bill has but an acre and a half. Oats, grass and rye are the other leading crops.

On the whole we were greatly pleased with our visit. It shows what a rough New England farm may become under the hand of skillful cultivation. Such bright spots are multiplying all through the East. The good time so long prophesied, if it have not already come, is surely coming.—Ed.

Success is the great absolution of snobs. Critics are the brokers of the literary exchange.—Punch.

FROM OUR WATERLOO CORRESPONDENT.

Fall Treatment of Manures—Husking Corn—N. Y. State Agricultural College—Agricultural Exhibitions.

Waterloo, N. Y., Oct., 1856.

Manures.—Most farmers in Western New-York apply their stable manure to their corn ground in the Spring, by hauling it directly from the yard to the field, where it is immediately plowed in; thus all the ammonia, as fast as generated, is saved in the soil. But that masterly farmer of Seneca County, John Johnson, says that the Fall is the right time to haul out and spread manure on the grass field intended to be broken up in the Spring for a crop of corn. He asserts that manure spread after September, in the Fall, loses none of its organic matter, and that it induces a late and early growth of grass through the scattered manure to be plowed under, which is an additional amendment to the corn crop.

Mr. J. is undoubtedly correct, if the manure can be kept through the Summer by compression, or composting, so as to avoid a too rapid fermentation; but if stable manure is kept exposed in heaps in the ordinary way, it will heat and lose by combustion, during Summer, most of its organic matter, all of which is saved if the winter made manure is plowed into the soil the same Spring, instead of the succeeding one. Hence, I take it, Mr. Johnson's plan will be followed by those Eastern farmers who make the most of their animal manures by composting them with peat, muck, &c., by which process a slow combustion only takes place, and nearly all the ammonia is retained in the heap; and if spread on the field in the Fall it will be found a great renovator of the grass, as well as the most economical manure for a Summer crop of grain when plowed under in the Spring.

Husking Corn.—Some of our best Pennsylvania German farmers cut up and shock their corn early, and haul it into their capacious barns as soon after fall seeding is over as possible; thus saving the fodder from the Fall rains. Here they husk it every leisure opportunity, improving the rainy days. The stalks are thrown on the haymow, or fed out in early Winter, when even the butts are sweet and juicy. Corn stalks thus appropriated are worth double the bleached things that remain uncut until nipped by the first white frost, and are exposed to late fall rains in the shock.

The N. Y. State Agr. College.—The buildings for this College will soon be in progress of erection. Six hundred and seventy acres of heavy tenacious soil, all fit for the plow, must make a large experimental farm, particularly when cereal and leguminous culture is the desideratum to teach the practical part of vegetable physiology in its relation to the soil and its constituents. But I suppose that cattle, horses, as well as sheep, of the various breeds, are to be multiplied and improved there.

I could have joined the Cayugans in preferring a smaller farm on that matchless section of the earth's surface near Sheldrake Point. It is only in this vicinity, on the

Cayuga shore, that the stalwart tulip tree (L'Tulipifera), the tall maple and ponderous basswood (Tilia Americana), alternate with the sturdy oak, denoting a soil as friable as it is all-abounding and wealthy in the food of plants, to a depth which no subsoil plow, yet to be invented, can ever hope to reach. The site, too, is picturesque, with a narrow, though more extended view of lake and shore, and rising grounds, and of arable field, orchards, farm-houses and woodlands, in far and near perspective. But the present location embraces an extensive landscape of woods and farm improvements, and the broad surface of the misty lake beyond; and the strong, stubborn soil lacks little more than mechanical aid to make it teem with vegetation.

Agricultural Exhibitions.—As far as heard from, the rural Fairs of every State and County are a great improvement on all preceding—the State Fair of New-Jersey, perhaps, excepted.

It would seem that a Jersey farmer improves by transplanting into a richer and more generous, if not a more grateful soil; as some of the best farmers of little Seneca County are from that State, and many of these have minds so far imbued with the importance of *book farming*, that they are among the first, and largest, on the subscription lists of our State Agricultural College. Our truly astute friend, Harris, of the Genesee Farmer, had his English propriety a little shocked at the Jersey Fair, when he saw only one poor Devon Bull in the large stalls appropriated for Devons, and him "For Sale." And a Durham Cow from J. J. Mapes, whose large protuberant bones stuck out as if she was an advertisement of the "Professor's" bony phosphate. But, methinks the day must soon come when rural New-Jersey will set about availing herself of the advantages which her proximity to those sores on the body politic, large cities, now might give her; I do not mean a market for products her present soil fails to produce, but as supplying cheaply the ready means for fertilizing that soil, which, however poor it may be, is always grateful.

S. W.

Choking Cattle.—Mr. Geo. S. Palmer, of Richmond, Va., writes, referring to a former article in the *American Agriculturist:* "Let me suggest a sure and never-failing simple remedy, by using a wagon or carriage whip, putting the butt end down the throat and pushing the obstruction down. The elasticity of the whip will allow the neck to be thrown up or down in any position. Of course you must first get the sufferer by the horns."

We have in several instances used, and seen used, the implement above recommended. Great care is necessary, or the æsophagus (meat-pipe) will be ruptured. We prefer in all cases to try the oil first, as stated in our former articles. So, also, a handful of snuff thrown into the mouth and nostrils of a choked animal induces coughing, which often throws out the obstruction.—[Ed.

Tis' sweet to abuse ones relations but painful to hear them abused.

CORN STALKS, THEIR VALUE FOR FEEDING—EARLY RIPENING OF CORN, &C.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

If any one of the herbaceous grasses will pay the labor and expense of early cutting, covering, and drawing, with juices unimpaired by either molding, or fermenting into the sour state, it is the stalks of the Indian corn, and more especially the shriveled or sweet variety. I have stalks of this corn cut as the green ears were plucked in August, and dried in an open shed, they are now half as rich in sugar as the dried stalks of the sugar cane. If your city M. D.'s, instead of denouncing still-fed cow's milk as unhealthy, could have made it obligatory on the feeders of these cows to supply them with small rations of sweet corn stalks, (which may be obtained from your market gardeners), this would replace the sugar which is taken from the slop to form alcohol. Then still slop, barring the odium of its lost associate, alcohol, will be found the full equivalent of hasty pudding?

But to have corn fodder in perfection, with fragrant leaf and saccharine stalk, it should be planted early, since a perfect crop in stalk and its juices, no less than in its cereal product can not be made outside of the longest days and shortest nights of three summer months. When I hear a farmer say, "if the frost only keeps off I shall have good corn," I set him down either as no farmer, or one who has no experience in corn growing. In no good corn growing region do the early frosts cut off a crop of corn that would have ripened well had the frost kept off. Corn only grows and matures fast and well with a temperature of 80° and over, by day, and not less than 60° at night.

It has been asked why late planted corn has barren stalks and fails to ear as well as that which is planted only two weeks earlier? I reply, that even if ears form, they can neither grow nor fill after the long and cooler nights commence, as it takes all the warmth of the shorter day to counterbalance the chill that the plant has received through the lengthened night. For this very reason good corn of the large variety is never grown in the equatorial regions, where twelve hours night sinks the thermometer much lower than it falls in our shorter summer nights.

The great value of corn grown expressly for late summer soiling of milch cows in particular, I will illustrate by giving the very successful example of our amateur farmer, Joseph Wright, who keeps up the yield of milk from his twelve fancy cows, through the dry season, each cow nearly filling a pail at a time, while some farmers milk five to seven cows into one pail. His cows run in as good pasture as our calcareous region affords. But as this fails under our long continued summer drouth, Sweet corn in drills from the same cause becomes rich in saccharine matter, in which state it is most nutricious. This is cut in August, September, and October, and fed to his cows at milking time. In August much is cut and dried, and mowed away on top of his hay, &c., for winter feed, always disposing it in a way that the juices of the stalk may neither mold nor sour. If any man doubts the value of full grown Sweet corn stalks (that have matured a crop of ears) for milch cows in winter, let him cut up a pail full of the butts that have their sugar unspoiled, and then another pail of English turnips, pithy as they are in winter, and place them before his cow; she will invariably take the sweet stalks first; and who has not as much faith in her practical judgement, as in any mere pen and ink, chemist's analysis?

Waterloo, October 10, 1856. S. W.

BEST MODE OF SAVING POTATOES.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Your correspondent asks how potatoes are best saved? Gen. Barnum, of Vergennes, Vt., had his potatoes gathered by shaking the tops into the wagon, dirt and all, and conveying immediately to large bins in the cellar, when turf, carefully cut, was placed closely upon the surface to exclude air. He succeeded well.

I fell in with a gentleman from Virginia, reared in Connecticut, who said he ordered potatoes from Connecticut every year, and that they were dug in cloudy weather, or just at twilight, and immediately barreled up, and kept from the light as much as possible. He found no other modes equally good. His potatoes were excellent.

An Irishman became celebrated in one of our cities for furnishing excellent potatoes. Taking advantage of his celebrity, he was paid one shilling a bushel more for potatoes than the market price. But presently it was discovered that his potatoes were no better than others brought to market, unless his directions were followed—to have them placed in a barrel, in the *dark*, and excluded from the air.

These hints come too late for this potatoe harvest; but may save some in disposing of their Winter's stock, and be remembered hereafter.

But *poor* potatoes will be poor, kept any way. Choice kinds should be planted on dry sweet soils, and dug before they are saturated with Fall rains. And good potatoes need to be well cooked. Let the cook take off the skin with a knife, *once* round the potato. Boil constantly till cooked. The water to be *drained* from them and the potatoes left uncovered to steam off. Serve them up with the skins on. Many a good potato is spoiled in cooking. Profited by the hints furnished by others, I cheerfully furnish these in return.

Fayette Shipherd.

Pulaski, Oswego Co., N. Y.

Keep Weed Seeds out of Manure.—Some seeds will live through almost any usual fermentation of the heap, and besides it should not heat and ferment. Many weeds cut in flower will still ripen seed, and as a general thing the seeds of our most pernicious weeds are most tenacious of life. The fire is the proper place for them, and as ashes they are harmless and profitable.

Orchard, Garden, Lawn, &c.

DWARF PEARS—WINTER TREATMENT.

Many suppose, that when the fruit is gathered, there is no further need of attention till vegetation starts anew in the spring; but this is a great, and not unfrequently fatal mistake. Among the most destructive insects to which the Pear, in common with other trees, is liable, is the "scaly bug" (cocculus), which gives the tree the appearance of being covered with white specks, and which the inexperienced little dream of being insects destructive to its vitality. A tree covered with scale is in a condition similar to that which a man would be in, with his body covered with scores of hungry bloodsuckers, drawing out his very life. The comparison is a strong one, but none too much so. No tree can long maintain its health and vigor, unless these pests be removed. A careful and experienced cultivator will never allow them to accumulate in great numbers; but it is only a too common sight to see these insects in such masses as to make the tree a filthy object to touch. It becomes sickly; the new growth is weak and spindling; the leaves assume a "sear and yellow" look; utter barrenness ensues; the tree finally dies; and then follows another lamentation over "our failure" to grow dwarf Pears. It would have been a marvelous thing indeed if you had succeeded. We have no doubt that more than half the failures to grow dwarf Pears may be traced to bark lice and scale. The simple fact is, that *cleanliness* is quite as essential to health in a tree as in man. A plant will no more thrive covered with lice and dirt, than will a human being. We find the opinion to be quite common, that the scale is killed by the winter's cold; but this is a great error.

Now for the remedy. We prefer a weak solution of whale oil soap, or a pretty strong one of soft soap. The solution is best applied by a long, narrow brush; if this can not be had, a common scrubbing brush will do; and it must be used with some vigor. As soon as the leaves have fallen, go over all your trees in order, and such as are in the least affected with scale should be well scrubbed; from the others remove all caterpillars' nests, and every thing else that can harbor an insect. We would recommend, however, that all the trees be treated with the above solution as a part of the regular routine of cultivation. They will be greatly benefitted by it; and thousands of insects, knits, and eggs, many of them quite invisible to the naked eye, will then be destroyed. Clean the ground around the trees from grass and weeds, and loosen it up with a fork If you have a good supply of manure, spread on two or three inches of it, and fork it in in the spring. If, however, you are not well supplied, do not apply it till spring, when half the above quantity may be forked in at once. Your trees will now need no further special attention till the season of pruning arrives, when we shall recur to the subject again.—Ed.

CHAPTERS ON PEAR CULTURE—NO. I.

BY DR. L. B., NEW-JERSEY.

[The following interesting article was written by a gentleman who modestly suppresses his name, but his initials, which we have taken the liberty to give, will be readily recognized, by Pomologists especially. It is in reply to our request for a plain, simple article adapted to the comprehension of the great mass, who have heretofore given little or no attention to the cultivation of pears. The writer, (a native of France,) being fortunately free from the necessity of growing pears for a livelihood, is devoting his whole time and attention, and no little expense, to improving the production of this valuable fruit. We hope for good results from his experiments and extensive investigations continually being made. We are promised future articles from his pen, which we shall value all the more highly, as the writer, not being a seller of trees, has no "ax to grind," and is seeking only for the truth.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Your note containing "questions on pears," is received. I doubt if I may consider myself sufficiently qualified to give satisfactory answers; however, to comply with your desire, I will give you as briefly as I can, the results of my experience and observation, though I would not wish to be considered as "authority." Everybody can make trials as I have done. I shall be gratified if I can say anything to prevent planters of pear trees from being misled by empty theories, by prejudice, or by the crude opinions of those who have given little attention to the subject, but who have been ready to publish the results of their errors and carelessness as settled rules and evidences. But without farther introduction, I will take up your questions designed for beginners:

> "What is the difference between a *dwarf* and a *standard*, and how is the dwarf produced?"

The Standard is a tree grafted or budded upon a plant of its own family. For example: a pear grown from the seed, or one grafted on a native pear root, is a standard. The seed or pit of apples and pears produces almost always a *wild* tree, only fit for budding or grafting with good varieties. The wildest (or cider) fruit gives the best seed for hardy stock. Seed of refined varieties should only be used for experimenting to produce new varieties. Their offspring are weaker, and, as in the apple, are unfit to make good standards.

The Dwarf tree is a variety of fruit grafted or *worked* upon some stock nearly allied to the original tree, but of different habits and character.

The pear can be worked upon the quince, the hawthorn, the medlar, the mountain ash, the azerolier, and the amelanchier; but the only really good dwarf stock is the Angers or Orleans quince, which is the only one in use in the nurseries. Unless the *proper* quince stock be used, no good result must be expected. I have seen some singular mistakes in publications, for want of proper attention paid to the question: *whether their trees had been budded upon the Angers, or upon the indigenous quince*, the latter being very inferior, if not worthless.

For the dwarf apple tree we have the Paradise stock and the Doucin—the first a real dwarf; the second between a dwarf and standard. Very many of the apple trees planted in our orchards are only *Doucins*, and are badly injured by the wind. A real apple standard, with stiff, spring-like roots, in good bottom, will not easily bend or give way in a storm.

The quince stock for nurseries, as well as the paradise, is produced from the twigs or branches heeled or laid in before winter, and planted early in the spring. This operation succeeds better in damp and cool climates, and in sandy soil, than in this part of the United States. Therefore most of these plants are imported, (chiefly from France,) although they can be produced here, with proper care, in soils fitted for them.

Pear seedlings, and I believe quince stocks also, are now obtained in large quantities in the nurseries of Rochester, Syracuse, &c., &c. I do not know if they are as cheap, all things considered, as the imported stock, but I have no doubts as to the possibility of raising them here.

And now comes that much controverted question:

"*Will quince-grafted pears do?*"

I have no hesitation in replying, "Yes, they will,"—and often better than on pear stock; and they are less subject to blight. I know that I do not agree with the opinions of my late friends, Van Mons & Espere, who never would admit a quince stock in their experimental gardens. I respect their memory, but cannot help considering their opinions as a prejudice. They had not found out the good quince stock, and perhaps did not know how to plant quince-grafted trees. I myself did not know it then. At present, my best trees are on the quince; and my best fruit also. Those who would successfully cultivate the dwarfs must pay attention to the following rules:

1. Have a good, substantial, rather deep soil, with porous or drained subsoil.
2. Select the good Angers, or Orleans quince for stock.
3. Plant no other varieties than those which succeed on the quince.
4. Plant the trees deep enough, so that the place where they have been budded shall be at least three inches below the surface of the soil. In rolling ground, cover with stones, or damp mould, so as to prevent the washing away of the light soil.
5. Keep the weeds down.
6. Keep the branches low, and make a pyramidal tree, by judicious pruning once or twice a year. If well pruned, the tree requires no pinching. A tree with a heavy, high top, must not be upon the quince. Levels or gentle slopes are better than hills or rolling ground.

It is a fortunate circumstance that most of the best market varieties are also best suited to the quince stock. Very often the grafted tree, when planted in silicious (sandy) soil or loam, forms its own roots just where it has been budded; and then, with the steadiness of the pear stock, it retains the fertility of the quince.

Much has been said about the *short-living* of the quince stock. If properly planted in genial soil, which is not exhausted or impoverished by intervening field crops without a reasonable supply of manure, as most of our apple orchards are; if free from ill weeds and shrubs, and other drawbacks, the quince-grafted tree will thrive for fifty years or more. Some actual facts will prove what I state. Hon. M. P. Wilder has in his garden in Dorchester, trees which he bought from the widow of Mr. Parmentier, Long Island, some twenty years ago. They have yielded fine crops almost every year. Some have been regrafted with new varieties; one of them with Beurre Clairgeau, which bore this year between one and two bushels of the finest and largest pears. These trees look healthy, despite all their mutilations, and there is no reason to anticipate a diminution of growth or crops. These trees are *on the quince*, but they have been planted by a man who knows how to manage trees.

In the same garden are some fine Urbanist trees,—a part on the pear, and a part on the quince,—planted in the same spot, in the same year. Those on pear roots are now beginning to bear some spare fruits, while the others, on quince, have yielded bushels of fruit for the last seven years, and are actually loaded with a splendid crop. All are equally healthy; but, those on pear stock, not having exhausted part of their vigor in the best marketable produce for years back, are rather more vigorous. By thinning the crop early, so as to make it moderate, those pyramids may be easily brought up to the full vigor of their unproductive neighbors. Now comes the important question,

" *Will quince roots do for orchards ?*"

For orchards, as we find them on most of our farms, a promenade ground for cattle, a dreary waste of ill weeds, badly cultivated and shallow soil, stagnant water, injudicious selection of varieties, and more injudicious pruning with axes or dull shopping knives—no, sir! No fruit tree of a refined class, no tree of any value, will do in such conditions. One half of the trouble, manure and labor, which a poor vineyard requires in France, would make a thrifty pear orchard, and would certainly pay better.

Let us look at some fine nurseries, or orchards (schools), where specimen trees are cultivated with care, and in proper soil and localities, and facts, those stubborn things, will soon bring conviction in the place of doubts.

Messrs. Elwanger & Barry, and others, in Rochester; Mr. Wilder and Mr. Hovey, near Boston; Chas. Downing, in Newburg; Dr. Grant, near Peekskill; Mr. Reid, Elizabethtown, N, J.; and many others, cultivate the pear on the quince stock with the best results. At Mr. Chas. Downing's, where every fruit and flower is cultivated in perfection, the surface of the ground in the dwarf orchards is covered with straw, refuse hay, &c., and no care nor cultivation is required; no weeds find their way through that carpet, renewed or supplied with new straw or brush every two or three years. Mr. Downing seems to be perfectly satisfied with his system, and indeed he must be.

In conclusion, let me say that, when one expects to reap the fruit of industry, he needs to give the proper attention to it; if he expects a fruit tree to yield crops of the most refined fruit, and to grow as a maple or a cedar in the woods, he is badly mistaken. The old saying that "a tree must take care of itself," is nonsense, when applied to fruit trees of improved kinds. It would do as well to plant *dahlias* or *prairie roses* in a a swamp, or among thistles and briars.

A great deal more remains to be said, but I have already extended my remarks too far.

He who wants large crops of pears, indifferent in size or quality, may plant all his trees on the pear stock, in deep soil; but he has to wait from ten to fifteen years. If you want large fine fruit, which, in fact, pays better with less trouble and expense, select your varieties on the quince. These will often bear the first year, and always the third or fourth from their planting. If I had thirty trees to plant, twenty should be on the quince, the balance on pear stock.

Some varieties will not grow upon the quince, but even these do well *double worked*, that is, budded or grafted upon a variety worked already upon the quince and succeeding upon it. The French call it *intermediary grafting*.

In planting orchards, the same care and the same digging is required for a standard as for a quince stock, but how different the result? Ask Mr. Hovey, and others around Boston, from which they derive their largest profits. They all agree that the quince root has paid the soil, the expenses, tree and all, long before a *pear stock* has shown any sign of bearing.

Below is, according to my own and my friends' experience, a list of varieties which will do for the market, till new and as good varieties can be added. We must consider that the introduction of new varieties of fruit into the market is not an easy thing. Those named below are also the best adapted to the most of the States between 30 and 42 degrees of north latitude.

I.

Varieties of pears which do well on the pear-stock or when double-worked.

Those marked *a* do not succeed well on quince stocks. Those marked *b* do bear as early and as well as others on the quince. They are arranged according to their value for general cultivation, market purposes, &c.

b. Bartlett—Sept.
b. Madeleine—Aug.
a. Seckle, (sometimes does well on quince.)
b. Beurré Clairgeau—Oct., Nov.
a. Columbia—Nov
a. Dix—Dec.
a. Doyenne Boussock—Sept.
a. Lawrence, (often good on quince)—Nov., Dec.
a. Heathcot—Sept.
a. Onondaga—Oct.
a. Kingsessing—Sept.
a. Pratt—Sept., Oct.
— Philadelphia—Sept.
b. Buffum—Sept., Oct.

And many others. The above are all *good looking* fruits, and of course will sell readily.

II.

Varieties adapted to the quince-stock, which also do well on the pear-stock.

Louise bonne de Jersey—Sept., Oct.
Duchesse d'Angouleme—Oct , Nov.
Beurré Diel—Oct., Nov.
Vicar of Winkfield—winter.
Urbaniste—Oct., Nov.
Beurré Superfin—Oct.
Beurré Hardy (or Sterckman)—Sept.
Abbott—Sept.
Belle Epine Dumas—Dec., Jan.
Beurré d'Anjou—Oct., Nov.
Flemish Beauty—Sept.
Andrews—Sept.
Kirtland's Seckle—Sept.
Brandywine—Sept.
Steven's Genesee—Sept.
Doyenne d'Alençon—winter.
Glout Morceau—winter.

(*The following are not so certain as the above, though succeeding well enough.*)

Winter Nelis—Jan.
Dearborn Seedling—Sept., early.
Belle Lucrative—Sept.
Easter Beurré—winter.
Easter Bergamot—winter.
Bonne d'Ezeès—Sept., middle.
Beurré Clairgeau—Oct., Nov.
Columbia—Nov., Dec.
Doyenne Sterckman (the true Beurré St.,)—Sept., Oct.

III.

Amateur's Fruit on Pear-stocks.

Fulton—Sept., Oct.
Sheldon—Sept., Oct.
Washington—Sept.
Beurré Bosc—Oct.
Calebasse Bosc, (Paradise of Autumn)—Oct.
Westcott—Sept , Oct.
St. Ghislain—early Sept.
Beurré Haggerston—early Sept.
Bloodgood—early Sept.
Ananas d'Eté, (good on quince,)—Sept.
Cushing—Sept.
Calhoun—Oct.
Chancellor—Nov., Dec.

IV.

Amateur's Fruit on Quince-stocks.

Tyson—Sept.
Howell—Oct.
Meriam—Sept., Oct.
Oswego Beurré—Sept., Oct.
Sterling—Sept.
Ott's Seedling—Sept.
Brandywine—Sept.
White Doyenné—Sept., Oct
Nouveau Poiteau — Sept. Oct.
Doyenné Gris—Oct.
Henry the IVth—Sept., Oct.
Beurré Langelier—winter.
Theodore Van Mons—Sept.
Pius Ninth—Sept., Oct.
Figue of Alençon—early winter.
Berg'tte Siculle—Sept., Oct.
Baronne de Mello- Sept.
Fondante de Ma lines--Sept., Oct.
Bergamotte Esperen—(all winter.)
Beurré Goubault—Sept.
Beurré Giffard—Aug.
Beurré Nantais—Sept.
Beurré St. Nicholas—Sept.
Beurré Dumortier—Oct.
Van Assche—Sept., Oct.

AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCEITY.

The recent session of this Society held in Rochester, was well attended. The display of fruit was not as good as on some former occasions, in consequence of an unpropitious season. The discussions, however, were interesting and important, and we may hereafter recur to them. It was decided to hold the next session in the City of New-York, and we bespeak for the Society a generous welcome. We understand that the New-York Horticultural Society has already moved in the matter, and will extend to the Pomological Society the usual hospitalities. In this we trust they will be aided by our wealthy citizens and the municipal authorities as has been the case in Boston, Philadelphia, and elsewhere.—Ed.

THE CONCORD GRAPE.

This new variety, which caused so much discussion at its introduction some four years ago, is settling down to a place among standard fruits, in northern gardens. No grape was ever introduced with a louder flourish of trumpets, and few were ever assailed with severer criticism. It is gradually winning favor, and appears destined to become popular, where the Isabella will not ripen. A fruit grower in Connecticut recently informed us, that it has done remarkably well with him, ripened this year by the 1st of September, while the Diana did not mature until the 16th, and the Isabella not until the last of the month. This is valuable testimony to its early maturity. The price has fallen from five dollars to one, and is now within the reach of all who desire it. We hear of gentlemen, who are making large plantations of it.—Ed.

How they do it in Minnesota.—An editor of a Minnesota paper gravely states that one of his subscribers informs him, that *six weeks* after planting his corn it was fit for the table! Minnesota, no doubt, is a great country; our own opinion, however, is that in this case the editor was decidedly *corned*.

GRAPES UNDER GLASS.

WILL THEY PAY?

The grapes which grow without protection on all the hill sides of Southern Europe, can only be produced with us, in their perfection, under glass. The difficulty seems to be, not so much in the temperature of our climate, as in its great and sudden changes. The atmosphere is clear and hot enough to mature even tropical fruits and vegetables in the summer. But there is something peculiar in the constitution of the European varieties of the grape, that they will not flourish in our climate. Mr. Longworth, after a life of experience with them, has discarded nearly every one, and now looks to grapes of American origin for successful cultivation in vineyards.

The peculiarities of our climate have led to the cultivation of European grapes under glass. Vineries with heating apparatus were at first built, and this was thought to be essential to give them an early start, and to prolong the season sufficiently for them to ripen. But it was afterwards discovered that artificial heat was not necessary to ripen even the late maturing graperies, and the only advantage of heated varieties was to furnish grapes at seasons of the year that would otherwise be impracticable. By judicious management, with both kinds of vineries, a succession is kept up throughout the year.

These grapes are still articles of luxury, confined to the tables of gentlemen of wealth in the suburbs of our cities and villages, and to those in the city, who have long purses, and can procure them at the Broadway restaurants at one to two dollars a pound. They are now an indispensible article on special occasions at the fashionable Hotels, at extravagant parties, and at wedding entertainments. The caterer for these occasions can not do up the brilliant thing in his line, without Black Hamburgs, Muscats of Alexandria, and the magnificent Cannon Hall Muscats, which are so large that the uninitiated generally suppose that Hall is a misprint for Ball, as the size of the grapes are suggestive of ammunition for cannon. So great is the demand for these grapes, that the cultivation is constantly extending, notwithstanding the large outlay necessary for a vinery. Usage, to say nothing of table luxury and health, now demands of every gentleman of wealth, in the suburbs of our cities, that he should have a grape-house as a part of his establishment.

Besides these, fruit growers are turning their attention more largely to vineries as a means of increasing their income. No department of horticulture is making more rapid progress, and in none is information more eagerly sought. Cold vineries especially are becoming common, and Black Hamburgs, and the Muscats, are invading new neighborhoods every year. Hundreds within the limits of our circulation are debating the question of a vinery this fall, and are only waiting for the assurance that the investment will pay, to commence operations.

We recently met an amateur cultivator at one of our State fairs, who very kindly gave us some light upon this point. He showed upon the tables thirty-one varieties of grapes, most of them grown under glass. We were at his residence a few years since, when he was putting up his new vinery, and were glad to see so fine an exhibition of its products. This building is a span, one hundred and fifty two feet long, and accommodates 240 vines. The estimated yield of each vine, in a season, is twenty-five pounds of grapes, making as the whole product of the building, 4,000 pounds. These would sell readily at seventy-five cents a pound, by the quantity, making the value of the fruit three thousand dollars. Of course a gentleman with a large family, and an admiring circle of friends, (whose admiration certainly would not diminish with the grapes in the back ground), would not be able to dispose of the whole of his crop to ready purchasers. But with all the calls of family and friends, he had sold grapes this season to the value of fifteen hundred dollars. One who should go into the business for the profit would be certain of a product of three thousand dollars, with good management.

The cost of building this grapery was thirty two hundred dollars, some four years since, when building materials were a little cheaper than now. The expense of taking care of the vines, he estimates at the price of labor for two hours each day during the season. Though a man of extensive business, he has actually attended to his vinery himself. But suspose we put the whole cost of labor, fertilizers, interest of money and depreciation of property at five hundred dollars, it gives a clear profit of one thousand, saying nothing of the ton of grapes eaten and given away. If these were to be sold, it would give $2,500 as a return for an investment of thirty two hundred. Of course this sum will not be returned the first year after the grapery is built. The vines should produce nothing the first year they are set, and the second, but a few bunches as samples. But after that they will begin to be remunerative, and will pay a large profit.

This gentleman gave it as his opinion, that no kind of fruit growing paid as well as grapes under glass. He cultivates to sell rather than to take premiums at the fairs, and thinks it better economy for the producer to cultivate a larger quantity of fruit, which will sell for seventy five cents a pound, rather than to restrict the bearing of the vines, for large bunches and large berries, which will bring a dollar a pound or more. He informed us, that the demand was brisk for all he had to spare. Large quantities are marketed at the summer watering places, like Newport and Saratoga, as well as in the cities.

Gentlemen, who only care to supply their own families with this delicious fruit, of course will not need to build so large a vinery as this. A lean-to of half the length of this, and costing not more than four or five to fifteen hundred dollars will afford an abundant supply for eight months in the year.

Those who wish to go in to the business to make money will need a much larger capital, and must either study the culture of the vine themselves, and give their personal attention to it, or employ a competent gardener to make this his chief business.

There is one very important advantage, which this crop has over many others. The cultivator has the complete control of the climate, and can regulate the heat and moisture to suit the wants of the plants. Insects are at his mercy, and a crop of fruit is almost as certain as the season. The fruit can all the while be kept under lock and key, and no pilfering village boys can rob him of the fruits of his toil.

There is another advantage in this kind of cultivation. It requires so much capital to carry it on, that competion is very much restricted, and the price of grapes is likely to be largely renumerative, for many years to come. There is never a glut in the market, and as long as the prosperity of the country continues, and fashion and luxury alike prescribe them at social entertainments, the demand must far exceed the supply. The price for good grapes grown under glass has seldom been, we believe, less than seventy five cents a pound, and the finer varieties, from forcing houses, in the spring, frequently bring two dollars and a half a pound. There can be no question that grapes will pay, and pay largely, according to the skill and capital invested in their cultivation.—Ed.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

The garden has now been nearly disrobed of the charms which so long made it attractive, and its inmates are fast hieing to their Winter's repose. The Chrysanthemum still lingers to shed its glory on its departing companions; and here and there may be seen a clump of Sweet Alyssum, or a solitary Phlox, or an Antirrhinum, which seem loth to depart; but soon these, also, will follow their companions who have gone before. Now look about, and see if something may not be done for the security of the plants, and to give the garden a somewhat tidy appearance, even during the long Winter months. It is a practice with some to cover the flower beds with manure; but this is offensive both to the eye and smell, and is not, as a general thing, at all essential to the protection of the plants; moreover, it is a great waste. Manure should be dug under as soon as applied, and not allowed to "waste its sweetness on the desert air." We prefer a good covering of leaves to anything else, where protection is essential. If not already done, Dahlias, Gladioluses, Tigridias, Tuberoses, Erythrinas, and all other tender roots and bulbs, should be lifted, and stowed away in the cellar, or some convenient part of the green-house. Pompone Chrysanthemums, Antirrhinums, and other half hardy plants, will need a little protection, if the beds are not covered. Cut off the dead wood from Herbaceous and other plants, clean off the walks and lawn, and gather up all the dead wood and litter, to be dried and burned, and the ashes spread on the beds and borders. Make everything look as neat and tidy as possible, and leave nothing till Spring which can be done now.—[Ed.

TO KEEP CELERY.

Many, especially amateurs, experience much difficulty in keeping this delicious vegetable during the winter. Where it has been grown in beds, (as it always should be in small gardens), nothing more is necessary than to cover it as it stands with a good thick coat of coarse manure; and it can then be dug at any time during the winter when it may be wanted. Where it has been grown in single trenches, it should be taken up and placed in a bed prepared as follows: Dig out the earth two spades deep and of any convenient width; lift the plants from the trenches with the earth adhering to the roots; put in a row of plants three or four inches apart, and throw some earth against them; then another row six inches from the first, and so on filling in the earth to the tops of the plants as you go along. When all the plants are in, cover the bed with a thick coat of coarse manure, straw, or litter of any kind; manure, however, is to be preferred. From such a bed the plants may be dug at any time during the winter. The bed may be made of less depth, but the plants will not keep as well unless the winter should prove mild. It is best, however, in all matters of this kind, to be prepared for the worst. It is not always, however, pleasant in winter to dig celery from a bed out of doors, and if a cool, airy cellar is at hand, the plants may be kept in good condition by placing them upright on the floor, and covering them with earth or sand, as directed above.—Ed.

ROOTS—KEEPING TURNIPS, BEETS, CARROTS AND PARSNIPS.

Turnips.—The largest raisers of rutabaga turnips in this vicinity, store them for winter and spring use in heaps or pits in the field. A bed is prepared, not by digging out a pit as is sometimes practiced, but the surrounding earth is shoveled in so as to raise it above the surface six inches to one foot, according to the usual dryness or wetness of the soil. They are sometimes stored in separate round heaps, in different parts of the field, to save carrying. Generally, however, they are put into windrows, say six feet wide at the base, and as long as may be needed. They are piled up as perpendicular as possible, like a sharp peaked roof, so as to shed rain. They are gathered when the frost begins to wither the leaves. The tops are cut off close at the time of pulling, but care must be taken not to cut the crown, as any juice that flows out soon ferments and produces decay in the roots themselves. For the same reason, the tap-root, and the smaller roots and fibres should not be cut or broken. Washing is injurious. When piled up, a slight covering of straw or corn stalks is put on, and successive coats of earth added as the weather grows colder. As it is desirable to keep them as cool as may be without freezing, we think no straw or stalks should be put under the earth covering. This plan is pursued by the Swiss farmers, as described in our October number.

Carrots, Beets and Parsnips.—These are all kept similarly, especially when designed for winter and early spring use. Parsnips, when not wanted until late in the spring, are better if left in the ground until the frost is thoroughly out. The most important point in preserving these three varieties of roots is, to keep them cool and away from the air. The best cultivators for this market put them in bins upon the sides of cool cellars, and mix with the roots a sufficient quantity of sand or any kind of moderately dry soil to fill up all the spaces between them, and leave the whole a solid mass, entirely covered. Put up in this way, they will keep perfectly well one season, and even two seasons. In the absence of cellar room, beets and carrots may be put in pits in the same manner as Rutabagas, only that they must be mixed with plenty of soil.

We think potatoes, turnips, and all other roots, will keep better if thoroughly mixed with clay or newly dug earth, whether in the cellar, or in heaps or pits in the field.—Ed.

CARPENTER'S WHITE PEACH.

This splendid peach has, we are glad to learn, been placed in the hands of nurserymen for propagation and sale. An inintelligent friend says of it: "At all the shows where it has been exhibited, it has received the prize as a superior seedling Peach. It has had a four years' trial, and has sustained its character fully. It is not only one of the best, but one of the largest Peaches ever raised. The flesh is uniformly white to the pit. It ripens about the second week in October. Having had opportunities of testing it for three years past, I do not hesitate to say that I consider it a very great acquisition."

Dr. R. T. Underhill's Grapes.—We have occasionally seen a "slant" at Dr. Underhill's method of grape culture, but the Doctor keep's right on, and "shows his faith by his *works*." At this time (October 6th,) you can scarcely pass a fruit stand, or store in this city without seeing immense baskets or heaps of luscious clusters of this pleasant fruit, and the best of these are always labeled R. T. U. As we write this item our mouth waters over a basket of magnificent Isabella's and Catawba's, right from Croton Point, or rather from the Depot at 293 Broadway, where any doubter of *our* verdict as to the superiority of Dr. Underhill's grapes, is invited to walk up and see for himself.—Ed.

Cauliflower—Hovey's Early Alma.—Mr. Henry Gillespie, gardener to Isaac P. Martin, Esq., of Fort Washington, N. Y., has placed upon our table a noble head of the above variety of Cauliflower, and shown us several other specimens, all of which are very large, clear white, and of fine and close texture. They measure 25 to 28 inches in circumference. The seed was sown May 15th. Mr. G. has tried all varieties, and esteems this decidedly superior to all others. —Ed.

FARMERS' DAUGHTERS—A PROTEST FROM ONE OF THEM.

ABOUT THE COMPARATIVE EDUCATION OF FARMERS' DAUGHTERS AND SONS.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

In your October number of the Agriculturist, under the editorial head "Work for the Month," there are one or two remarks made in a tone of quiet sarcasm, which have somewhat aroused my indignation, for to my mind they are rather unjust. I think, sir, you have looked at what appear to be the facts in the case, without sufficiently studying the causes, or in other words you have "not found out just where the shoe pinches." After a dolorous lament for the good old times of husking parties, and the attendant rollickings, there is an evident disposition manifested to sneer at the so called *fastidiousness* of the Farmers daughters of the present day, on the supposition that they would, as a matter of course, turn up their noses at the mere mention of a husking frolic, or any other rural festivity. Then again comes a most uncalled for reflection. "The business has lost its charm in the eyes of the fair sex, and this we imagine has more to do with the reluctance of Farmers' sons to remain upon the old homestead than most people imagine." Verily a grave charge to bring down upon the devoted heads of country damsels. As though they ought to be made responsible for the erraticism of the young men who do but yield themselves to the necessity of the age, which impels them to go out into the world seeking new and more favorable fields of fortune than home presents. When the spirit of enterprise is made to take the right direction, then will there be a different class of young men who will be proud to devote themselves to the noble occupation of the Farmer. Do not think to call back the simplicity of a past age, when country lads and lasses were content with the homespun dress, and had not a thought beyond or above the annual huskings, apple parings, and like festivals of the olden time. *Our* "corn fed nymphs," are not so wanting in good sense as to *despise* the *profession* of their Fathers and Brothers. They are quite ready to admire all that is ennobling in the occupation. But there is one great mistake made by Farmers generally; they do nothing to elevate their calling, it is all dull, hard plodding, with little or nothing to relieve the monotony of constant labor. It is not to be wondered at that youthful aspirations are discouraged. If the functions of the brain were brought into more active operation, the labor of the hands might be more skilfully performed, and that which is often looked upon as a menial task, might, when the light of science is brought to bear upon it, be considered a matter of high import.

As regard the daughters of our good Farmers they are not educated after the manner of their Mothers and Grandmothers, and can not be expected to view things in the same light.

There is still another mistake to which attention might well be directed. The daughters are educated *far beyond the sons.* Is it strange then they should admire the grace of manners, and a degree of courtesy which is not usually discernible in a country bred youth. The boy who has imbibed a certain quantity of reading, spelling, and arithmetic is thought to be sufficiently educated for the farm. But with the daughter of the house a different system is pursued. At the age of fourteen or fifteen she is taken from the district school and advanced to the village seminary; after a while a higher degree of polish is thought necessary and she is sent to a fashionable boarding school in the city, to acquire a taste for the accompaniments of life in town. If such a discrepancy did not exist in the mode of education a different tone would prevail, and rough hands would not be despised. Why should not as high a degree of culture pervade the Farmer's family as is exhibited in that of any on the face of the earth. The amenities of life ought not to be considered puerile and of but little account, it is these *little things* which make the family circle attractive and elegant, and nowhere do they appear more charming than in the quiet repose of the old homestead. When these unobtrusive graces are found joined to a cultivated intellect, that man who possesses them will never be looked down upon by any woman be she of town or country.

A LOVER OF JUSTICE.

REMARKS.—We are happy to have received this protest, and to know that the facts presented in our article are admitted by one of the daughter's. The first step in any reform is to present the facts to the people and to gain their assent to them. It is admitted then, that the boys do run away from the homestead pretty generally, that those who remain are deficient in education, that the old folks pay more attention to the education of the daughters, than they do to that of the lad who is to abide by the homestead, and perpetuate their name, that the girls resent this short sighted policy and will not marry the half educated incumbent, though he have home and fortune. We are not particular about the philosophy that underlies these facts, and shall not quarrel with the causes assigned by our fair correspondent. We lament the facts and their causes whatever they may be. Attention is more strongly directed to this matter every year, and in due time a remedy will be found. We think the old folks are already beginning to discuss a change of policy. They do not exactly like so much education in the seminary, and so little in the kitchen for their daughters; so much education of Tom's muscles in the field, and so little of his brain in the academy. We think that the old folks will eventually hit upon a more symmetrical education for both sons and daughters. The truth is, they do not exactly like Tom's chances for a wife and their own for a daughter-in-law, if things go on in the present way. They have seen the result of this slender education for farmers' sons in their neighbors' families, and as for having such a wife for their Tom, as some of their neighbors have had to put up with for their sons, they could not think of it. They want somebody in the house that is "like folks," as Mrs. Bunker, would say, in the parlor as well as in the kitchen, somebody that can make a table look tasteful and elegant every day as well as upon set occasions, in short a well bred and womanly wife for Tom.

So, Miss Loveress of Justice, be pleased to modify, somewhat, your displeasure at our statement of facts. We venture to assure you, that Tom will go to the academy this fall, that he will be brushed up both in his inner and outer man. His older sister just graduated from the Holyoke Seminary, has already given him some lessons on propriety, on keeping his hair brushed and his boots clean, and on the proper mode of saluting young ladies in the street, and of introducing his sisters and female friends, to new acquaintances. His younger sister still in the seminary in the city, though she declares Tom a boor, and a clown and all that, has invested in a tooth brush for him, evidently with a view to his reformation. His trunk is already partly packed and among other choice literature, a Chesterfield has been put in by the purchaser of the tooth brush. Tom takes all these things meekly, and soliloquizes as he looks at his comely face in the glass, "a boor she called me." He is in doubt about Chesterfield, whether the book belongs to the department of mathematics or fiction, but he will know all about it soon, when he gets to the academy. There the functions of his brain will be brought into more active operation, that the labor of the hands may be more skillfully performed. Tom will remember the parting injuction of his younger sister, and study the graces of deportment, as well as syntax and prosody. He will learn something beyond the vernacular of the farm, will indulge in rhetoric and be able to write a taking letter upon business or affection, as occasion requires.

When Tom has done all this, and education makes the most of his good qualities, when he is handsome in person, pleasing in manners, and well to do in the world, will Miss Matilda Wiggins, his town's woman, and second cousin, fresh from the school of Madam Chagairy, heed his addresses? Will not her taste "for the accompaniments of life in town" disgust her with country life? Will it not be "horrid dull" with any body in the country? We take an interest in Tom, and should like to know our correspondent's opinion of his fate.—ED.

THE HONEY KING.

We have had occasion every autumn to refer to the operations in "Sweets," carried on by Mr. M. Quinby, of St. Johnsville, Montgomery Co., N. Y., the well known author of the "Mysteries of Bee Keeping Explained."

We do not know what better proof could be given of the value of Mr. Quinby's teachings in reference to the best method of keeping bees, than the results he himself yearly arrives at. Two or three years ago we noticed as a remarkable fact that he brought to this market 4,000 pounds of nice honey. But the present year he has sold here 22,000 pounds! all produced by himself and immediate neighbors. What is more, he uses no "patent *hive*," but the honey is collected in small square, cheaply constructed boxes with glass sides, which are set upon the common hive, and the quality is so superior, and the form of boxes so convenient, that his honey commands a very high price.

The first lot of 14,000 lbs. arrived here a short time since, and went off at once for 25 cents per lb., including the weight of boxes. The past week he sold 8,000 pounds more, of various grades at correspondingly high rates.

Everything considered, we think Mr. Q., deserving of some distinguishing title, and we were at first inclined to call him the "Professor of honey making," but having recently become rather choice of the title of "Professor," we conclude to "assume the responsibility" of naming him the "HONEY KING."—ED.

BOILED CORN PUDDING.

[The following extracts are from a letter written by one of our readers in Lycoming Co., Pa. We shall hope to hear from her frequently.]

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

* * * We have gleaned many useful hints from your paper, and would gladly contribute something in return. * * We were interested and amused with the "Hasty Pudding Poem," in the September number, and hope your chapter on "How to make Hasty Pudding," in the October number, will incite many housekeepers to learn the best mode of preparing so good and healthful a dish. You were quite right in saying that "not one in ten cook it enough;" but don't talk of only twenty minutes. [We said *not less* than twenty minutes.—Ed.] Two hours cooking is desirable. Put in plenty of water, and after it has once boiled, only a slow fire is required. With this precaution, I find no difficulty in preventing its scorching with an occasional stirring, say once in five minutes. Thus made, and eaten with milk fresh from the cellar or spring-house, (not forgetting to stir in the cream!) you have a dish to be relished by the most fastidious palate.

I send a recipe for a *boiled corn pudding*, which is not often made in this valley, though it may not be new to your Yankee readers.

Mix well together: 3 cups Indian meal; 2 cups of buttermilk; 1 cup of water; half a cup of butter; half a cup of sugar; 2 teaspoonfuls cooking soda, and 2 beaten eggs.

Put into a tin mould, covering the top with a cloth firmly tied on, and boil three to four hours. A convenient mould may be made by cutting off the top of an oyster can, and bending the edge over a wire. Serve with sweetened cream, flavored with nutmeg; or with butter and sugar melted with a little water, and a few spoonsfulls of currant jelly.

N. B.—The addition of fruit, either fresh or dried, is a great improvement—to many persons at least.

EDITH.

SEED WANTED.

We wish to purchase a few quarts more of the seed of the Chinese Sugar Cane, or Sorghum Saccharum, for *free* distribution among our subscribers. Any one having any to dispose of will please write us immediately, stating quantity, price, &c.—[Ed.

Improved Sheep in New-Jersey.—Mr. J. C. Taylor, of Holmdel, Monmouth Co., is securing a valuable flock of South Down sheep. He purchased fully one-fourth of L. G. Morris' flock, at the sale in June last, and has now just received a buck and four ewes of the same breed, from the flock of Jonas Webb, England. He paid 100 guineas ($500) for the buck, before shipping.

Mr. Geo. W. Coffin, will hold a sale of Live Stock, on the 12th inst See advertisement

"A BAKER'S DOZEN."

It is desirable to have as many as possible of our subscribers begin and end evenly with the volumes, which will hereafter correspond with the year. To bring this about, all new subscriptions received during the next four months will be entered from January 1st 1857, unless specially ordered otherwise. But

TAKE NOTICE.

All *new* names for 1857, received during this month (November), will receive the November and December numbers *without charge*. Our agents and friends generally may therefore commence sending new names for 1857, at once. Such subscribers whether single or in clubs will get a "Baker's Dozen," that is *fourteen*, instead of *twelve* monthly numbers for a year.

WHAT SAY YOU FRIENDS?

Is not the Agriculturist worthy of your recommendation? Can you not conscientiously advise your neighbors to subscribe for it? We make no vain or unfounded boast when we promise you that the volume for 1857 (vol. XVI), will by far excel all its predecessors in real practical value. We have strong grounds for this promise. A success the present year beyond our most sanguine expectations gives a new zest to our labors. A large number of the best and most practical writers have given us assurance of their assistance during next year.

A large sum will be devoted to procuring superior, beautiful and instructive cuts, and the paper will be decidedly improved *in every respect*.

If the free offer of the two remaining numbers of this year will be an additional inducement to new subscribers we shall be glad to furnish them.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):
Ten cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.
No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.
By the column or half column, $12 per column for the first insertion, and $10 for each subsequent insertion.
☞ Business Notices 20 cents a line.

MORGAN HORSES.

A PREMIUM ESSAY
ON THE
ORIGIN, HISTORY AND CHARACTERISTICS
OF THIS REMARKABLE
American Breed of Horses.
Tracing the Pedigree from the original Justin Morgan,
through the most noted of his Progeny,
down to the present time.
WITH NUMEROUS PORTRAITS.
TO WHICH ARE ADDED
Hints for Breeding, Breaking, and general Use and Management of Horses,
With Practical Directions for Training them for Exhibition at Agricultural Fairs.
BY D. C. LINSLEY, MIDDLEBURY, VT.
☞ New-York: C. M. SAXTON & Co., Agricultural Book Publishers, No. 140 Fulton-st. Price $1. Sent free of postage.

AUCTION SALE OF LIVE STOCK.

The subscriber, having disposed of his farm, will sell at public auction, at his residence, on WEDNESDAY, the 12th of November next, at 12 o'clock M., all his live stock, consisting of

AYRSHIRES.
The thorough-bred prize bull Malcolm, 3 years old.
Do. do. cow Flora, do.
Do. do. heifer Effie, 1 year old.
Do. do. bull calf Roderick, 8 months old.
The cow and heifer in calf by Malcolm.

COTSWOLD SHEEP.
10 ewes, from one to five years old.
4 ewe lambs.
1 buck, 3 years old.
2 bucks, 1 year old.
1 buck lamb.

SOUTH DOWN SHEEP.
20 ewes, from one to six years old.
9 ewe lambs.
1 buck, 2 years old.
2 bucks, 1 year old.
1 buck lamb.

One pair of large, well-matched serviceable HORSES.

Terms.—A credit of four months with approved notes, payable at the Dutchess County Bank, Amenia, Dutchess Co., N. Y.
118n125 GEO. W. COFFIN.

BEES! BEES!

22,000 Pounds of Honey IN ONE SEASON.

M. QUINBY,
the Author of the
MYSTERIES OF BEE-KEEPING EXPLAINED,
has sent to the New-York market this year, 22,000 pounds of Honey, besides having more on hand. He uses no "patent hive," but treats his little "busy bees" in a natural method, and they repay his care a thousand-fold.

Mr. Quinby's method is fully described in a work of near 400 pages, entitled "Mysteries of Bee-Keeping Explained." This will be mailed, post-paid, to any one remitting $1 to the Author and Publisher.
M. QUINBY,
St. Johnsville, Montgomery Co , N. Y.

N. B.—There are so many advertised humbugs, the Author has been kindly permitted to refer to Mr. Judd, Editor of the American Agriculturist. Those preferring it may send orders to the care of Mr. Judd . M. Q.
118n127

LINNÆUS RHUBARB BY THE THOUSAND.

PARSONS & CO.,
FLUSHING, NEAR NEW-YORK.

OFFER FOR SALE THIS SUPERIOR variety of the PIE PLANT, at ten dollars per 100, or eighty dollars per 1,000 crowns. 117-118n112

SMALL EVERGREENS,

CHEAPER THAN IMPORTED.

PARSONS & CO.,
FLUSHING, NEAR NEW-YORK,

OFFER FOR SALE—

		per 100.	per 1.000.
NORWAY SPRUCE,	1 year planted	$10	$80
do.	2 do.	12	100
SIBERIAN ARBOR VITÆ,	2 feet	40	
do.	2½ to 3 feet	60	
CEDRUS DEODARA,	2 feet	40	
do.	3 feet	60	
do.	4 feet	80	
ABIES MORINDA,	1½ feet	50	
HODODENDRON CATAWBIENSE,	1 foot	50	

With many other varieties suitable for the trade, or for plantin masses. 117-118n114

PARSONS & CO.,

FLUSHING, NEAR NEW-YORK,

OFFER FOR SALE AN ASSORTMENT of Trees and Plants which they have grown for the use of Amateurs, and have prepared, by frequent transplanting and other modes, for success in moving.

They are of fine size and symmetrical form, and among them will be found

STANDARD APPLES of fine quality;
STANDARD PEARS, PLUMS and CHERRIES;
PEACHES, APRICOTS and NECTARINES, on Plum stocks, and their own roots;
DWARF PEARS, of fine form, and ready for bearing;
GOOSEBERRIES and CURRANTS, strong plants of the best sorts;
RASPBERRIES, Fastolf, Red Antwerp, Fillbasket, and other known sorts;
STRAWBERRIES, of all the best varieties;
NATIVE GRAPES, Isabella, Catawba, and other hardy varieties;
FOREIGN GRAPES; all the well known sorts, with some new varieties of great excellence. These plants are propagated from vines that have borne abundantly for some years, and are known to be correct.

Great care is taken in the cultivation of Fruit Trees, and none but those of the best quality are allowed to be sent out.

THE ORNAMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Contains Trees of all sizes for lawns and streets, including *Elm, Silver, Norway* and *Sycamore Maples, Catalpas, Lindens, Tulip Trees, Cypress, Larch, Willows, Ash, Abele, Oriental Plane*, and all the best varieties of deciduous trees.

It also includes EVERGREENS of fine size for single planting, and of small sizes at low prices, from one foot upwards, for massing; among them are *Norway Spruce, Balsam Fir, Austrian Pine, Hemlock, White Pine, Scotch Fir*, and other varieties.

The best Shrubs include many fine varieties at low prices, for massing, of which the *Rhododendron Catawbiense* can be particularly recommended for its fine evergreen foliage, showy bloom, and perfect hardiness.

The ROSES are cultivated in very large quantity, on their own roots, of all the most rare varieties, and to those who purchase in quantity, will be sold at greatly reduced rates.

THE EXOTIC DEPARTMENT

Contains a fine assortment of CAMELLIAS, grown as bushy rather than tall, slender plants; and also contains all the well-known varieties of exotic plants, and many rare sorts introduced from Europe annually. These are all carefully grown for those who desire plants of symmetry and beauty.

CATALOGUES of all the departments will be furnished on application. Great care will be taken in packing, and trees will be delivered in New-York, and thence shipped as directed.
117-118n113

ANDRE LEROY'S NURSERIES AT ANGERS, FRANCE.

MR. ANDRE LEROY, MEMBER OF the principal Horticultural and Agricultural Societies of Europe and America, and lately promoted by the French Emperor to the rank of Knight of the Legion of Honor for the best Nursery products exhibited at the World's Fair held in Paris, begs leave to inform his friends and the public that he has just published his new Catalogue for 1856, being more extensive and complete than that of any similar establishment on the Continent. It contains the prices, &c., of all the Fruit, Ornamental and Evergreen Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Camellias, Stocks, Seedlings, &c., &c , with the necessary information for importing same. His experience in putting up orders for America, and the superior quality of his plants, have been too well appreciated during a period of ten years to require further comment. The Catalogue can be obtained free of charge, on application to the undersigned agent, who will also receive and forward the orders. Mr. A. Leroy is happy in being able to state that his Nurseries were not reached by the inundation which so recently devastated a portion of the district in which they are situated.
ANDRE LEROY, Angers.
F. A. BRUGUIERE, Sole Agent,
117-119n105 No. 138 Pearl-street, New-York.

NEW CANAAN NURSERIES—Three and a half miles from the Danbury and Norwalk Railroad depot.—The subscribers are prepared to offer the largest and best assortment of Nursery stock the coming season, they have ever had, consisting of 50,000 apple trees, three and four years from the bud or graft; 40,000 peach trees, one year from the bud; cherry trees, pear trees, standard and dwarfs. Also, a general assortment of Evergreens and other ornamental trees.

N. B.—We would particularly invite the attention of persons wishing to purchase largely, to our stock of apple and preach trees.
STEPHEN HOYT & CO.
New Canaan, Ct., Oct., 1856. 118n124

PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT FOR THE WINTER MONTHS.

PLEASE TO READ THIS!

AGENTS WANTED.

EXTRA INDUCEMENTS FOR 1857.

☞ All persons in want of employment will at once receive our Catalogue of Books for the New Year, prepaid, by forwarding us their address. Particular attention is requested to the liberal offers we make to all persons engaging in the sale of our Large Type Quarto PICTORIAL FAMILY BIBLE, with about ONE THOUSAND ENGRAVINGS.

☞ On receipt of the established price, Six Dollars, the PICTORIAL FAMILY BIBLE, with a well bound Subscription Book, will be carefully boxed, and forwarded per express, at our risk and expense, to any central town or village in the United States, excepting those of California, Oregon and Texas.

☞ Our books are sold only by canvassers, and well known to be the most saleable. Address, (post paid.)
ROBERT SEARS,
118-119n120 No. 181 William-street, New-York.

FRESH IMPORTED HYACINTHS, TULIPS, &C.

THE SUBSCRIBERS HAVE JUST RECEIVED an unusually fine and extensive assortment of Double and Single Hyacinths, Tulips, Polyanthus Narcissus, Double Narcissus, Jonquilles, Crocus, Crown Imperials, Fritillarias, Gladiolus, Irus, Ixias, Lilies, Arums, Anemones, Ranunculus, Colchicums, Snowdrops, Aconites, Oxalis, Lachenalias, Amaryllis, Early Roman Narcissus, to which they invite the attention of amateurs.

Retail Descriptive Catalogues, with directions for culture, furnished applicants enclosing a stamp for return postage.

Dealers and Nurserymen supplied in quantities at as low rates as usually paid for the refuse bulbs from auction.

A good assortment of Hyacinth Glasses, Fancy Crocus Pots, &c., &c.
JAMES M. THORBURN & CO.,
116-118n89 No. 15 John-street, New-York

PEACH TREES FOR SALE.—A choice selection of kinds, both for the GARDEN and ORCHARD, of the most beautiful growth; worked from specimen-bearing trees, at $60 per 1,000. Also, ASPARAGUS, two years, $4 per 1,000. Other Trees and Plants low. EDWIN ALLEN,
118n122 Nurseries, New Brunswick, N. J.

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept 4, 1855.*

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation, (the plants which abound in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address, WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

N. B.—Plants will be furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs. 111—tfn42

LAWTON (OR NEW-ROCHELLE)
BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

☞ PRICES REDUCED. ☜

The subscribers have become Agents for the sale of the genuine Lawton (or New Rochelle) Blackberry Plants raised by Messrs. George Seymour & Co. of South Norwalk, Conn., and Messrs. Hallock of Milton, N. Y.

We are prepared to receive large orders the coming Fall and Spring, deliverable from the middle of October until the ground freezes, and from the middle of March until the middle of May.

PRICES.

$20 00 per hundred plants,
11 00 " fifty "
4 00 " dozen "
2 25 " half dozen "

Cost of package for a dozen or half dozen, 12 1-2 cents; for fifty or a hundred, 25 cents—larger packages proportionably less.

The name of the grower, who will *personally* superintend the taking up and packing with directions for setting and cultivating, will accompany each package.

The plants raised by these parties have been during the last year forwarded to *every part of the country*, and very few instances of failure have occurred, although the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Orders must be accompanied by the cash to ensure fulfillment.

We are permitted to refer to
Hon. Horace Greeley, Editor New-York Tribune;
Orange Judd, Esq., " American Agriculturist;
James J. Mapes, Esq., " Working Farmer;
Solon Robinson, Esq., Agricultural Editor New-York Tribune;
Thomas Drew, Esq , Editor Worcester Spy, Worcester, Mass.;
Stafford Cleveland. Esq., " Yates County Whig;
James S. Gibbons, Esq., No. 10 Wall-street, New-York ;
Richard H. Manning, Esq , No. 54 Cortlandt-street.

N. B.—Orders should be given as early in the season as practicable, and will be filled in the order of their reception.

Pamphlets may be obtained of us on application by mail or otherwise, free of charge, giving statement of origin, history and characteristics, &c.

DREW & FRENCH,
Fruit and Produce Dealers,
116-118n97 No. 85 Barclay-street, New-York.

LAWTON
BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

The Subscribers announce to their friends and customers that they have now

OVER SIX ACRES
of the
GENUINE LAWTON
BLACKBERRY PLANTS

under cultivation, and in good condition.

They are therefore prepared to fill large orders the coming FALL and the following SPRING.

PRICES.

$25	per	Hundred plants.
$12 50	per	Fifty plants.
$5	per	Dozen plants.
$2 50	per	Half dozen plants.

N. B. All plants ordered of us will be TAKEN up and PACKED with the GREATEST CARE ; and UNDER OUR OWN PERSONAL SUPERVISION.

Of the MANY THOUSANDS sent out by us last year we have heard very few instances of failure, notwithstanding that they have been forwarded to EVERY PART OF THE COUNTRY, and the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Printed directions for setting and cultivating are sent with every package.

GEORGE SEYMOUR & CO.,
South Norwalk, Conn.

THE NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.

☞ PRICE REDUCED. ☜

THE SUBSCRIBER, BEING ONE OF the oldest and most successful cultivators of this superior fruit, offers for sale well-rooted Plants of good size, carefully packed so as to go safely to any part of the world, and deliverable in November, March or April, at

$4 PER DOZEN, OR $18 PER HUNDRED.

Full directions for their cultivation given with each parcel of Plants.

N. B.—This is the same BLACKBERRY which is by some, though erroneously, called the "*Lawton*" BLACKBERRY.

ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
116 118n102 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

NEW-ROCHELLE (LAWTON) BLACKBERRY.—Genuine Plants for sale on liberal terms by the subscriber. SIMEON LESTER,
Can apply for information at J. W. LESTER'S, No. 161 Water-street. New-Rochelle, Westchester Co., N. Y.
116-121n104

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane, Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 8- 30

THE CELEBRATED
MILTON RASPBERRY PLANTS
FOR SALE.

A few thousand of the above will be disposed of at $15 to $25 per thousand.

ALSO:

Five hundred Milton or Newman thornless blackberry plants, at
Six dollars per dozen, or
Twenty five dollars per hundred.

E. S. WOOLSEY,
118n126 Milton, N. Y.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS

PRICES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1856.

Packages of Six Plants - - - - - -	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants - - - - -	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING. A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city. WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
111—tfn41 or at New-Rochelle, N. Y.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855 ; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,
C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

GREEN SAND MARL OF NEW-JERSEY.

THE NEW JERSEY FERTILIZER COMPANY is now prepared to receive orders for this important Manure. For all lands upon which ashes are beneficial, the MARL is more than a substitute. Professor Cook, in his Annual Report to the Legislature of New-Jersey, says:

"The value of these MARLS is best seen in the rich and highly cultivated district which has been improved (*almost made*) by their use. But it may be interesting to examine the causes of their great value in agriculture, and to compare them with other fertilizers. For example : The potash alone may be taken, at an average, as five per cent. of the whole weight of the MARL ; a bushel, when dry, weighs eighty pounds ; and in the proportion mentioned, would contain four pounds of potash ; This is nearly as much as there is in a bushel of *unleached wood ashes.*"

And again : "It is probable that the great value of the MARL is to be found in the fact that it contains nearly all the substances necessary to make up the ash of our common cultivated plants "

Price delivered on board vessel at the wharves of the Company at Portland Heights, Raritan Bay, New-Jersey, seven cents per bushel.

For further particulars, s e Circular, sent *free* of *postage.* Orders for other fertilizers will receive prompt attention. Address either of the undersigned.

CHAS. SEARS, President,
Riceville Post-Office, N. J.
TAPPAN TOWNSEND, Treasurer,
No. 82 Nassau-st., New-York.
GEO. W. ATWOOD, Secretary,
117-118n111 No. 16 Cedar-st., New-York.

PERUVIAN GUANO—*At lowest market prices*, wholesale and retail—with Government weight and brand on each bag, for sale at the AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT AND SEED Warehouse of R. L. ALLEN,
Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.
ALLEN'S CELEBRATED MOWING MACHINE
CANNOT CLOG.

PORTABLE CIDER MILL AND PRESS.—This very desirable and approved machine I am now manufacturing in the best manner. It will make more cider than any other press with a given quantity of apples, and in a given time. The cider made from it is of the best quality. Cider can be made with this mill when, and in quantities as required. It is also useful for pressing currants, berries, cheese, butter, &c. For sale by R. L. ALLEN, No. 189 and 191 Water-st.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME—Of Hoyt, DeBurg, and Mapes's manufacture.

GUANO, Bone Dust, Poudrette, Super-phosphate of Lime, &c.

BONE DUST, ground and sawings. Poudrette, Tafeu, Plaster of Paris.

Purchasers may depend upon getting these manures of best quality. For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

DRAINING TOOLS of all sizes, and of the latest improvements. Spades, Scoops, &c.
For sale by R. L. ALLEN, 189 and 191 Water-street.

BURR STONE and Iron Grain Mills.

PLOWS of all kinds. Wrought Iron Plows, and Plows with wrought iron Points.

HARROWS ; Hay and Stalk Cutters.

SEED SOWERS, &c., in great variety.

FIELD and Garden Seeds.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,
For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others :

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

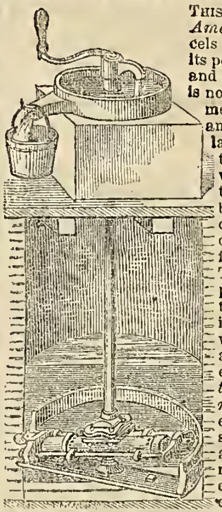
Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

Lindsey's Double-Acting
ROTARY FORCE PUMP.



THIS pump has just been patented in *America* and *England*, and far excels any pump heretofore invented ; its peculiarities are *simplicity, power*, and *cheapness*. Its simplicity ; there is nothing about it but iron and cast metal, and it can be taken apart and put up by any one, and will last for an age. It has the power to raise water *hundreds of feet*, with the extra expense of $3 and the price of pipe. Water rises in it by hand 100 feet per minute ! For cheapness ; a No. 1. pump (for all ordinary purposes) complete, and fifty feet of pipe, costs but $30 ! The handle at the top, turns the pipe and pump, and every revolution fills the cylinder twice, affording an abundant supply of water with the least possible expense and labor. It is peculiarly adapted to *deep wells, rail road stations, salt works, mining and manufacturing purposes.* Wherever it is introduced, the old force, suction and chain pumps will disappear. Practical and scientific men pronounce it as without an equal, for all that is here claimed for it. The *Scientific American*, after seeing it in operation, says : "*This pump is very simple in construction, not liable to get out of order, durable, easily operated and economical; we regard it as an excellent improvement.*" Circulars with an accurate drawing and full description sent free of charge to all parts of the country. No. 1, has a one inch pipe ; No. 2, 1¼ inches ; No. 3, 1½ inches ; and the prices $30, $42, $54 ; the No. 2 and 3 are designed for *very deep wells, railroad stations, &c.* where much water is required. The subscriber is the general agent for the sale of these pumps to all parts of the world, and *exclusive agent for* NEW YORK. Orders must be accompanied by the *cash*, and should be explicit as to the kind of pump wanted, depth of well, shipping address, &c. They will meet prompt attention. A pump and pipe weighs about 170 lbs. No charge for shipping or cartage. Wells over 50 feet should have extra gearing, which costs $3.

JAMES M. EDNEY,
Com. Merchant, 56 John St. N. Y.
For sale by H. LINDSEY, Inventor, Asheville, N. C.
113—118n69

HORSE POWERS AND THRESHERS.—I have for sale the best and most approved made in the United States, viz :

Allen's celebrated one horse endless chain power.
Emery's Patent do do do
Allen's celebrated two do do do
Emery's patent two do do do
Trimble's one to four horse iron circular power.
Warren's do do do do
Eddy's or Tasslin's superior wood and wrought iron one to six horse circular power.
Hall's or Pitts one to eight horse iron circular power, much used in California and other Western State

THRESHERS.

Allen's or Emery's Threshers with or without Separators.
Eddy's Iron Cylinder Threshers.
Hall's or Pitts and other make Threshers and Cleaners combined, for two to eight horses.

R. L. ALLEN, Nos. 189 and 191 Water st.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS—A full assortment of Hedge and Vine Shears, Pruning Knives, Hoes, Rakes, Cultivators, Trowels, Forks, Watering Engines, &c. &c.

PLOWS—A large variety of patterns, among which are the most approved Sod, Stubble, Side-hill, Double-mold, Sub-soil, Lock Coulter, Self-Sharpener, &c.

CARTS AND WAGONS—With iron and wood axles, on hand or made to order, in the best and most serviceable manner.

LITTLE GIANT and other Corn and Cob Crushers

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water st., New-York

RUSSIA OR BASS MATS, GUNNY BAGS, TWINES, &c., suitable for Nursery purposes, for sale in lots to suit, by

D. W. MANWARING, Importer,
111-128n110 248 Front-street, New-York.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL

ABOUT TWO MILLION OF ACRES

OF

FARMING LANDS,

IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,

ON LONG CREDITS AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and are among the richest and most fertile in the State. They extend with the road, from Chicago on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the extreme northwestern part of the State. Most of these lands lie immediately on, and within six miles of the road, and none are more than fifteen miles distant from it; hence, ready and cheap facilities are furnished for transporting their products to any of the Eastern or Southern markets The great increase of population by immigration, etc., and the consequent rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages, on the line of the road and throughout the State, furnishes a substantial and growing home demand for every kind of farm and garden produce.

In the Northern and Central parts of the State, prairie lands predominate, interspersed with magnificent groves of oak and other timber; in the Southern, the timber is more abundant, and exceedingly valuable.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc. The air is pure and bracing, the climate more healthy, mild and equable than that of any other part of the Union; while living streams and springs of excellent water abound.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken sod usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from $2 to $3 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern, and to Cairo for the Southern market.

Bituminous coal is extensively mined along the road, and supplies a cheap and desirable fuel; being furnished at many points at $1 50 to $4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord. Extensive quarries have been opened in the southern part of the State, near the line of this road—of building stone of excellent quality—such as white and blue Limestone, and white and red Sandstone—which can be had for little more than the expense of transportation.

The Government lands, in the Land States, having generally been withdrawn from market, emigrants from the Eastern States and Europe can be accommodated by this Company with valuable farms, at the old prices and terms, which, in all probability, will double in value within twelve months.

When those lands are restored to market, persons who think of settling on them, or in Minnesota, should bear in mind that the lands of this Company, at the prices for which they are sold, are better investments than those in other States or Territories, more remote from market, at Government prices; for the reason that the expense of transporting the products of the latter to market will always be a heavy drawback on them, and after a few years cultivation they require manuring, which is not the case with Illinois lands.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road, and others with which it connects, the operations of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from $5 to $25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made until further notice, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract, and the lands are not subject to taxation till finally paid for.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, $250 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

It is believed that the price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter, in English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.,
Office in Illinois Central Railroad Depot, Chicago, Ill.
118—120n123

THE INDEPENDENT,

A

WEEKLY RELIGIOUS AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Circulation over 25,600!!!

Rapidly Increasing

AMONG ITS MANY DISTINGUISHED WRITERS ARE

REV. GEORGE B. CHEEVER, D. D.
REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER,
GOV. LOUIS KOSSUTH,
M. LOUIS CZERNATONY,
MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE,
MR. CHARLES L. BRACE,
DEAN,
MINNIE MYRTLE,
ANNIE H.,
M. E. W.,
M. L. E.,
And numerous others.

CORRESPONDENTS

from all sections of the Union; from England, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and the Holy Land, contribute to enrich the columns of THIS JOURNAL.

That no other weekly religious newspaper ever met with the success of *The Independent* must now be universally admitted. It has been the aim of the proprietors, without regard to expense, to make it rank in point of talent as high as the best journal of a similar character in the world; and to make it popular *only* so far as this could be done by treading boldly and firmly in the path of Christian duty—"not as pleasing me , but God."

A crisis has arrived when every Christian is called upon to ask, "Lord, what wilt thou have *me* to do" in a conflict for principle and human rights as great as the world has ever seen. No voice can now be silent with impunity. If the religious press or Christian men now refuse either to speak or to act, the very stones will cry out for Heaven's sorest judgments, and we shall be left as a nation to fill up the measure of our iniquity.

Now is the time to prove who are the true lovers of liberty, and to demonstrate who are the worthy descendants of the fathers of the Revolution, who were willing to lay down their lives to secure for this fair country an inheritance of freedom.

The Independent will enter the field side by side with *all* who desire to do battle for *truth, justice*, and *humanity*. With all the power God may give it, it will urge the Christian public to do with their might what their hands find to do to save our beloved country from the death-grasp of Slavery. It will advocate freedom of speech, freedom of the press, free soil, free men, and —— Fremont for the next President. Those who think a religious paper should not thus freely join with the secular press in doing this extraordinary work, are informed that the matter has been calmly considered. the cost counted, and the conclusion deliberately and conscientiously arrived at, that duty to God and man precludes a moment's hesitation as to the course which ought to be taken by this paper. Those who sympathize with it, of every name and party, and they are *thousands*, will aid the cause by doing all they can to extend its circulation.

Those unacquainted with *The Independent* are informed that the paper will furnish articles weekly as follows:

1st. Religious Editorials. Selections, and current Religious News.
2d. Editorials discussing the great Moral and Political Questions of the Day.
3d. Communications from regular weekly contributors, embracing every variety of topic suited to a Christian family—to the *living*, not to the dead
4th. Foreign and Domestic Correspondence.
5th. Reviews and Special Articles on important topics by the ablest living writers.
6th. An Article on Agriculture, embracing information from all parts of the country in relation to the condition of the crops.
7th. A Review of the New-York Cattle and Produce Market.
8th. A Price Current, carefully corrected weekly.
9th. A Commercial and Financial Article, embracing topics suited especially to business life. and containing all the important news of the day, including a List of Failures from all parts of the country.
10th. Poetry, Religious Items, Reports of Public Meetings, Book Notices and Reviews, and other matters interesting to the reading public.

TERMS.—By Mail, $2 00 per annum in advance,

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Fifteen cents per line each insertion.

SPECIMEN NUMBERS sent gratis.

Office, No. 22 Beekman-street, New-York.

JOSEPH H. LADD,
Publisher.

August, 1856. **116-118n96**

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz: Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—DRAINING and IRRIGATION in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines, wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission.

SHIPMAN & HAMMOND,
111—121n48 No. 63 Trinity Buildings. 111 Broadway, N.Y.

THE TEETH vs. THE HEALTH.

EVERYBODY KNOWS the pleasures of an aching tooth, and nothing need be said upon that head. But

EVERYBODY does not fully appreciate how much good health depends upon having food well masticated, for which, of course, GOOD TEETH are necessary. Said the Editor of the Agriculturist recently:

"I have kept myself and my *Children* in *perfect health* during the present year, by simply taking especial care to have *every* particle of food thoroughly mashed or pulverized before going into the stomach. In this way nothing of a hard nature, like a piece of potato, fruit, meat or other food goes into the intestines to produce irritation, and the consequent diarrhœa, dysentery and other bowel complaints."

Every consideration speaks strongly in favor of preserving the teeth we have, and of supplying those already gone.

Those who wish any operations upon their teeth performed *honestly, carefully, skilfully*, in short, in the *best possible manner*, and upon *reasonable terms*, will do well to call upon DR. BENJAMIN F. ADAMS, at No. 122 Chambers-street, New-York, a little west of the City Hall.)

Dr. ADAMS has given exclusive attention to operations upon the teeth for over fourteen years, and confidently refers to the thousands of persons who have been under his care.

Dr. ADAMS may always be found at his office, so that persons coming in from the country may depend upon having any desired operation performed immediately on their arrival.

Whole or Part Sets of Incorruptible Teeth inserted without pain, on Gold Plate or Gutta Percha, excelling nature in beauty and durability, by aid of the various modern inventions and the subscriber's recent improvements. Spongy, bleeding, or ulcerated gums speedily cured. Partly decayed teeth saved with gold, tin, or patent fillings, and their preservation warranted. No impure gold or dangerous amalgams used.

Irregularities in children's teeth prevented, or of adults remedied. Cleansing, extracting, &c., &c., *all at low prices*.

Satisfaction in regard to color, form, and translucency of all teeth inserted, in block or single, is in all cases warranted.

The great delicacy and caution observed in all operations, with the aid of recently improved and superior instruments, dispense with all necessity of chloroform or other narcotics in the most irritable nervous system.

Teeth examined, and advice given *free of charge*.

BENJAMIN F. ADAMS,
116—118n101 No. 122 Chambers-street.

YOUATT'S CONDITION POWDERS, For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP and SWINE—cures Heaves, Cough. Glanders, and all diseases resulting from Colds, and which affect the mucous membrane of the lungs, throat and head of the Horse. Also expels Botts and Worms, loosens the hide, improves the appetite, and keeps the animal in good condition. Youatt's Condition Powders are recommended to all who take a pride in preserving the good health and fine appearance of their Stock. Price 50 cents a package. Sold at wholesale by Haviland, Harral & Risley, Wholesale Druggists, No. 39 Warren-st., and by dealers generally. 114-119n70

DOCTOR HOOFLAND'S
CELEBRATED

GERMAN BITTERS,

PREPARED BY

Dr. C. M. JACKSON, Philad'a, Pa.

WILL EFFECTUALLY CURE
LIVER COMPLAINT. DYSPEPSIA, JAUNDICE,
CHRONIC OR NERVOUS DEBILITY,
DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS,
AND ALL DISEASES
ARISING FROM
A DISORDERED
LIVER
OR
STOMACH;

Such as Constipation, Inward Piles, Fullness or Blood to the Head, Acidity of the Stomach, Nausea, Heartburn. Disgust for Food, Fullness or Weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinking or Fluttering at the Pit of the Stomach, Swimming of the Head, Hurried and Difficult Breathing, Fluttering at the Heart, Choking or Suffocating Sensations when in a lying posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots of Webs before the Sight, Fever, and Dull Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness of the Skin and Eyes, Pain in the Side, Back, Chest, Limbs, &c., Sudden Flushes of Heat, Burning in the Flesh, Constant Imaginings of Evil, and Great Depression of Spirits.

The Proprietor, in calling the attention of the public to this preparation, does so with a feeling of the utmost confidence in its virtues and adaptation to the diseases for which it is recommended.

It is no new and untried article, but one that has stood the test of a ten years' trial before the American people, and its reputation and sale is unrivalled by any similar preparations extant. The testimony in its favor, given by the most prominent and well-know physicians and individuals in all parts of the country, is immense, and a careful perusal of the Almanac, published annually by the Proprietor, and to be had gratis of any o his Agents, cannot but satisfy the most skeptical that thi remedy is really deserving the great celebrity it has obtained "

Principal Office and Manufactory, No. 96 ARCH-street, Phil delphia, Pa. And for sale by all Druggists and Store-keeper in every town and village in the United States and Canadas.

117-119n116

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, Oct. 28, 1856.

During the month past there has been a gradual rise in the Breadstuff Markets, though, as shown in the table of comparative prices below, the total advance has not been very large. On flour for example, the rise is about 7 to 10 per cent. With a fair, but not over supply in the country, and a moderately fair foreign demand, there is a probability that about the present range of prices will continue, subject, however, to occasional speculation fluctuations.

The root crops have generally turned out an average yield. We as yet hear of no serious loss from Potato rot.

Fruit is scarce and already high. Those having Apples of Marketable quality should take good care of them.

The following table shows the total receipts of flour and grain in this city by Railroad, River, Canal and Coastwise, for 27 business days ending to-day:

Flour..	431,500 bbls.	Rye..	36,200 bush.
Wheat.	1,998,700 bush.	Oats..	107,000 bush.
Corn...	1,754,000 bush.	Barley,	59,200 bush.

We find upon our note-book records of the following sales in this city for 27 business days ending to-day:

Flour...	401,500 bbls.	Rye....	67,300 bush.
Wheat.	2,054,400 bush	Barley.	53,000 bush.
Corn..	1,494,500 bush.		

The following figures show the present prices of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report:

		Sept. 27.	Oct 28.
Flour—Ordinary State......		$5 90@ 6 00	$6 50@6 60
Various Western brands		6 05@ 7 75	6 70@ 8 50
Favorite and Ex. State..		6 30@ 6 65	6 75@ 7 00
Extra Genesee		7 00@ 9 00	7 25@ 9 00
Wheat—Canada White... .		1 56@ 1 63	1 70@ 1 73
Southern White		1 55@ 1 65	1 60@ 1 75
Southern Red..........		1 52@ 1 55	1 53@ 1 60
Western Red and White		1 40@ 1 63	1 65@ 1 80
Corn—Mixed		62@ 70	62@ 69
Yellow and White......		65@ 72	69@ 75
Rye—New		86@ 88	85@ 87
Barley.............		1 28@ 1 30	1 15@ 1 30
Oats—Western, &c.........		38@ 46	38@ 47
Cotton—Middling and Fair .		11⅞@ 13	12¼@ 14
Rice................	℔100 lbs	4 00@4 62½	3 87@ 4 87
Pork—Mess.........	℔ bbl...	19 75@20 00	20 75@21 00
Dressed Hogs......	℔ lb....	7¾@ 8½	7¾@ 8¾
Lard, in bbls.......	℔ lb....	14½@ 14¾	12¾@ 14
Butter—Western...	℔ lb....	12@ 19	16@ 21
State...........	℔ lb....	15@ 22	19@ 25
Orange Co......	℔ lb....	22@ 28	25@ 30
Cheese............	℔ lb....	7@ 9	8@ 10½
Potatoes—Carters..	℔ bbl..	@	1 50@ 1 62
Mercers........	℔ bbl...	1 50@ 2 25	1 50@ 2 50
Onions—Reds......	℔ bbl..	1 62@ 1 75	1 25@ 1 37
White..........	℔ bbl..	2 00@ 2 25	2 00@ 2 50
Apples..............	℔ bbl..	50@ 2 50	1 00@ 3 50
Eggs, fresh, per dozen.........			21@ 21½
Limed, " "			18@ 20

Beef Cattle have been in fair supply during the month. The receipts for *four* weeks, ending Oct. 22, compare as follows:

	1855.	1856.
Total of Beeves for 4 weeks.	16,182	19,488
Weekly average..............	4,045	4,872

The receipts were, for week ending Oct. 1st, 5,614; Oct. 8, 4,220; Oct. 15, 5,544; Oct. 22, 4,110. The prices declined ¾c. Oct. 1st, and again Oct. 15, making a total decline for the month of 1½c. per lb. net weight. On Wednesday last the prices ranged: Premium cattle 10½c.a11c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 9c.a10c.; Medium quality, 8½c.a9c; Poor quality, 7½c.a8c.; Poorest quality, 7c.a7¼c.; General selling prices, 8½c.a9c. Average of all sales about 8½c.

Sheep have been in fair supply, though less than for the same time last year, and prices continue higher. Receipts for *four* weeks ending Oct. 22:

	1855.	1856.
Total of sheep and lambs....	62,235	52,041
Weekly average............	15,558	13,010

Prices of Sheep and Lambs the past week have ranged from $2 to $9 per head, the majority of good animals bringing $3a$4 50 per head.

THE WEATHER.—Our weather notes, condensed, read Sept. 28, clear; 29 and 30, heavy S. E. rain storm with wind. Oct. 1, cool showers; 2d, heavy frost and some ice in morning, day clear and cool; 3d, clear and fine, milder; 4th to the 13th, inclusive, clear, fine and warm, with the exception of frost on the morning of the 4th, and a few foggy mornings; 14th, rain A. M., cloudy and cooler P. M.; 15, 16 and 17, clear and fine with frosty mornings—pretty severe frost on the morning of the 16th; 18 to 23, clear, fine and mild; 24 and 25, clear, with heavy frosts at night, considerable ice on the morning of the 24th; 26, milder; 27, rain; 28, clear, fine and moderate.

By the above, it will be observed that with generally a fine month, we have had, on the mornings of the 2d, 4th, 16th and 24th, unusually severe frosts for the season. Some fields of late buckwheat and corn were nipped, but no very extended injury is reported.

"You have only yourself to please," said a married friend to an old bachelor. "True," replied he, "but you cannot tell what a difficult task I find it."

'Tis a sad thing when a man has neither heart enough to speak well, nor judgment to help his tongue.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

BACK VOLUMES.

We have *only* Volumes XII, XIII and XIV. Price, Bound, $1 50.—Unbound, $1 00 per volume.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have sundry *odd* numbers of Volumes, XI to XIV, These will be sent free to those wishing to complete their volumes for binding.

Of Volume XV, we have several copies of October, November, December, May, June, and September, (Nos. 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9) and a very few of July and August (Nos. 10 and 11). These will be sent to subscribers post-paid, on the receipt of three 3-cent stamps.

In order to make the Volumes correspond with the year hereafter, this Volume (XV) will be continued to December, and contains 15 numbers. Subsequent Volumes will begin in January and end in December.

☞ We sometimes send (post paid) a spare copy of the Agriculturist to persons who are not subscribers. This is occasionally done as a compliment, and at other times to invite the person receiving it to examine its merits and see if it will not be worthy of a year's, or at least six months' subscription, by way of trial. Will those who may receive such copies please look them over, and, if convenient, pass them along to their neighbors? No one need take the trouble to return papers thus received—we never send the Agriculturist when we do not consider it *paid* for, and no one need fear to subscribe for a short period, lest they "can not get rid of it" if not wanted. The paper is always stopped when the time expires for which it has been ordered and paid.

INDEX.

Baker's Dozen.............................333
Bees, Practical hints on Wintering.....................323
CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.....................314
Cattle—A good place for.....................323
Cattle—American Herd-Book, Vol. III.....................320
Cattle, Choking.....................327
Cauliflower, Hovey's Early Alma.....................331
Celery, How to keep in Winter.....................331
Corn Pudding, Boiled—Original.....................332
Corn Stalks—Value for Feeding.....................327
Editor's Farm Notes, Lyme, Ct......................325
Exhibition, Agricultural, in 1857....Illustrated..320—324
Fall Plowing and Spading.....................316
Farmers' Clubs—Value &c.....................317
Farmer's Sons and Daughters—Education compared..331
Flower-Garden—Winter Preparation.....................330
Grapes under Glass—Will they pay?.....................330
Grapes, the Concord.....................329
Grapes, Dr. Underhill's.....................331
Hallowell Me., Farming in.....................223
Honey King, The.....................332
Ice Houses—How to build cheaply.....................319
Lightning Rods—How to construct.....................321
Manures—Keep out Weed Seeds.....................327
Mice vs. Apple Trees—What shall be done?.....................318
Peaches, Carpenter's White.....................331
Pear Culture by Dr. L. B. Chapter 1.....................328
Pear Trees, Dwarf—Winter Treatment.....................328
Pomological Society, American.....................329
Potatoes, Best Mode of Saving.....................327
Roots, Keeping in Winter.....................331
Salt Marshes—Experiment in Reclaiming.....................321
Salt Marshes, Answer to Inquiries.....................322
Seed Wanted.....................333
Shade Trees, Setting out—Selecting &c.....................316
Sheep—Improved in New-Jersey.....................333
Sheep, Wintering.....................325
Sorghum or Chinese Sugar Cane—Editor's Notes.....320
Sorghum—An experiment with.....................325
Spain vs. United States.....................324
Special Dispatch or Boston Horse Race.....................325
Stone Walls & Fences—To prevent falling in Winter.321
Strychnine Anecdote.....................314
Tim Bunker in "Tall Clover".....................320
Waterloo Correspondence—Manures, &c.....................326
WORK FOR THE MONTH.....................313

American Agriculturist.

(Established in 1842.)

A THOROUGH-GOING, RELIABLE, and PRACTICAL Journal, devoted to the different departments of SOIL CULTURE—such as growing FIELD CROPS; ORCHARD and GARDEN FRUITS; GARDEN VEGETABLES and FLOWERS; TREES, PLANTS, and FLOWERS for the LAWN or YARD; IN-DOOR and OUT-DOOR work around the DWELLING; care of DOMESTIC ANIMALS, &c. &c.

☞ The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month.

A full CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS for the season is given every month.

Over FIVE HUNDRED PLAIN, PRACTICAL, instructive articles are given every year.

The Editors and Contributors are all PRACTICAL, WORKING MEN.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year..........................	$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ In addition to the above rates: Postage to Canada 12 cents, to Europe 24 cents; Delivered in New-York City 12 cents.

Subscriptions can begin Jan. 1st, July 1st, or at other dates, if especially desired.

The paper is considered *paid for* wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st., New-York.

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	$3 00
Five copies of both papers one year.....	8 50
Ten copies of both papers one year.....	17 00

Printed by R. Cunnington, 191 Water-st.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Gardener, and the Planter.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN,—WASHINGTON.

ORANGE JUDD, A. M., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ESTABLISHED IN 1842.

$1.00 PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.
SINGLE NUMBERS 10 CENTS.

VOL. XV.—No. 15.] NEW-YORK, DECEMBER, 1856. [NEW SERIES—No. 119.

☞ The Office of the American Agriculturist is on the 2d floor at 191 Water-st. near Fulton).

☞ All Business and other letters should be addressed to ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st.,
New-York City.

☞ Personal Letters, or those for the Editor only should be marked *Private*.

WORK FOR THE MONTH.

" Though now no more the musing ear
Delights to listen to the breeze
That lingers o'er the green-wood shade,
I love thee, Winter, well.

Not undelightful now to roam
The wild heath sparkling on the sight;
Not undelightful now to face
The forest's ample round;

And see the spangled branches shine,
And mark the moss of many a hue
That varies the old tree's brown bark,
Or o'er the gray stone spreads."

Stern December has come with his storms and snows, to wrap his winding sheet around the dead year. The pleasant days are almost gone, and the sickly smile of the Indian summer has faded from the heavens. There is a wintry chill in the air, and every cloudy day threatens sleet and snow, if they have not already fallen. There is little now without to charm the eye or ear, and we indulge in retrospects and pleasant memories by the fireside. The harvests are all gathered and stored, and the Puritan festival of Thanksgiving, stealing away from New-England, has been celebrated in nearly all the States of the Union. The blessings of Providence have crowned the year with abundant harvests. There has been no long general drouth, and no important crop has been cut off. The Indian corn, though not as heavy as in some years, is still abundant, and the potato crop though visited with the rot in some limited localities will meet all the demands of the market. The grass has been abundant, and butter and cheese have been manufactnred as extensively as in former years. The fruit crop, particularly apples and peaches, has been a short one in most parts of the country. But with this exception, almost every product of the farm has been good, and there never was greater occasion for gratitude to God at the close of a year.

No class certainly are more highly favored than our rural population. None are brought so visibly into contact with the divine hand, and made to feel at every step their dependence upon Almighty power. Their work is pursued for the most part under the open heavens, and they are obliged to watch the aspects of the weather for favorable opportunities to sow, to plant, and to gather in their harvests. And when the seed is committed to the earth, all the conditions of its germination and growth are beyond the control of the husbandman. A few degrees less of heat, and no seed sends forth its blade. A little more or less of moisture, and the fruitfulness of the fields is materialy dimished or ruined. Heavy winds beat down his crops, and the precious grains are destroyed. Heavy rains swell the streams and rivers, and the bottom lands are swept of their growing crops. Often a single rain makes a difference of a million of dollars in the value of the harvest of a single State. Thus the tiller of the soil is made to feel his dependence upon Him " who hath gathered the winds in his fists and hath bound the waters in a garment."

The year has been one of prosperity not only in the products of the field, but in the new implements which human skill has provided to help the labors of the farm. All the occupations of the farmer are beginning to present new aspects; strange machines are crowding into the barn, or into buildings built expressly for their storage, saving millions of thews and sinews by an increased activity of the mind. The mowing machine has made its first appearance upon thousands of farms this season, and by its clean work and saving of labor has prepared the way for still greater triumphs another year. The scythe and its swath are doomed and will soon be found only in the collections of the antiquarian. The threshing machines and fanning mills have nearly achieved their triumphs, and flails are stowed away among the lumber of the barn. Implements for the care of hoed crops are continually improving and winning their way to public favor. Tillage will soon be mainly prosecuted by horses power. Improved horse hoes and cultivators, are now before the public that promise to do everything that human skill can do with the common hoe. Potatoes are now harvested by a digger, drawn by horse power, that will do the work of a dozen men, and do it better. These improvements are telling upon the farming interest and are adding largely to the wealth of those tillers of the soil, who " take the papers," and keep up with the spirit of the times.

In no calling is intelligent enterprise and capital more surely rewarded than in ours. We see on every side signs of progress. Urged on in our work not only by a desire to discharge a duty but by the unnumbered charms which it presents, the year has passed rapidly and pleasantly away. Our visits to the houses of our readers on agricultural occasions, and our associations with them through these columns have been pleasant and profitable; and we trust these relations will long be continued with mutual advantage.

SETTLING ACCOUNTS.

The close of the year should find every account squared up, and the farmer should be able to tell how he stands with the world, and how much he is worth. This is the only satisfactory way of prosecuting any business,—the only way by which system can be introduced into our farming operations. A multitude of unnecessary articles are purchased upon credit, for want of some such settlement of accounts as every December should bring with it. Every man ought to know, once year at least, what his pecuniary ability is, and ought not to purchase anything that he has no means to pay for.

Accounts of long standing often lead to unkind feelings between neighbors, and to expensive litigation. If they only run a year the items can be remembered by both parparties, and a satisfactory settlement be made. To avoid these disputes and feuds, make annual settlements, and if you find a man that you cannot bring into the measure, give up business dealings with him. It is far better to give up trade with him than to run the risk of permanent alienation by unsettled accounts.

FEEDING STOCK.

This should now receive constant attention. Dry, warm stables are matters of prime importance for horses and neat cattle. If the barn is not already tight, it should be made so before extreme cold weather sets in. A few dolars laid out upon boards and shingles in stopping crevices, will be much better economy than in buying extra food. Comfortable stabling will make a difference of five dollars in the expense of wintering a cow. A tight barn saves one-fourth of the fodder. You can reckon the money it will save you, by the value of the fodder now stored for winter provisions.

Gentle treatment is also a very important matter in the care of animals. The more quiet they are kept the better for their flesh and fat. Stables somewhat darkened are also more favorable to their quiet and fattening. Sheep have produced double the weight of mutton from the same weight of vegetable food, when fed under shelter, and kept undisturbed and in the dark. It is warmth and shelter that make the fattening of swine so much easier in summer than in the winter.

The form in which food is given is also worthy of attention. Dry uncut hay, as it comes from the mow, is a very expensive fodder. Grass newly cut, it is well known goes much further than after it is made into hay; and the opinion is now becoming very generally prevalent that steamed, boiled or otherwise prepared food, is more wholesome for cattle, and more economical to the feeder, than the same food given in a dry state. The principle is now well established among intelligent famers that cutting hay with a good machine pays for the extra labor, and leaves a handsome profit. A hay cutter is among the indispensable implements about a barn. This you may buy upon credit with safety, if there is no other way to obtain it.

CARE OF MANURE.

The cattle are now all housed, or at least should be, and manure-making should receive constant attention. If muck has been thrown out from ditches during the summer it should now be carted into the yards and stables as soon as the ground is frozen so that the teams can go into the swamps. An abundant supply of absorbants should be kept constantly on hand, and, if possible should be put into the stables in a dry state. If forests are near, gather leaves for bedding. All the animals should have coarse hay or straw, or some equivalent for a bed. These materials absorb the urine and add to the compost heap.

WINTER PLOWING.

December is often an open month, and the fields and gardens are not unfrequently in good condition for plowing or spading. The ground could be worked last year, in most parts of the north, until Christmas. We plowed a piece of corn land very badly infested with Durfee grass on the twenty-fourth of this month last year. It helped destroy the roots, and has been much more easily tilled during the past season. With, all the prejudice against fall plowing, it is winning its way into favor, and in all heavy loams and clayey lands the practice is beneficial. The frost is a great disintegrator, and should be allowed a fair chance to work for us when the plow is laid aside. We believe in fall plowing for such lands, and keep the plow going until the frost stops it.

EARLY GARDENING,

should have a few thoughts now. The spot where you wish to plant early potatoes, lettuce, cabbage, &c., should be manured and trenched before the ground is closed. It is a good plan to leave it in high ridges, so that as large a surface as possible may be exposed to the frost. It can be worked much earlier in the spring, and the manure is then diffused all through the soil. The plants immediately find their appropriate food, and push along rapidly.

MANURE STRAWBERRY BEDS

and cover them with old hay or leaves. Many of the varieties are hardy and do not absolutely need coverings, but all that we have ever cultivated, do much better for a light mulch. If in exposed situations the bean poles may be laid upon the hay, to keep it in place. Apprehension is sometimes felt, that ground may be made too rich for this fruit. Our plants have never suffered from this cause, though we trench thirty inches deep, and put in stable manure liberally. The best fruit can only be grown by deep and thorough tillage.

LAY DOWN RASPBERRIES.

Many fail of good crops, because they neglect this. The red and yellow Antwerps, the Tasloff, and the Franconia, are not reliable, unless the canes are buried during the winter. They only need three or four inches of dirt, and when the stools have been properly set it is not much trouble to cover them.

STORE YOUR MIND.

While you are thus careful of the field and garden, and are providing for their future usefulness, do not neglect to furnish the mind with wholesome aliment. Now, if ever, the journals and books that pertain to husbandry must be read, and the plans be laid for future improvement. Your success in your calling depends quite as much upon your mental stores, as upon the fertilizers you store away in your soil. Brute-muscle no more rules the farm. Mind, enlightened by science, here gains its triumphs.—[Ed.

FILLING ICE HOUSES.

It sometimes happens, that the best ice in the whole season is made in the month of December. It is always well to secure the first good ice that makes, say one foot in thickness. This, if it be perfectly clear and free from frozen snow, is thick enough, and the sooner the crop is secured the better. Those who have large houses and harvest ice for the markets have their own methods and need no hints from us. But there are many among our readers, who have followed our suggestions on building an ice house, and who will be ready this month to lay in their summer stores. For such we would offer a few plain directions.

The first business is to cut the ice into suitable blocks for packing. Where there is no machinery to be employed in handling the blocks, two feet by three will be found a convenient size, for a house twelve feet square, as they will make a perfect fit in the packing. The ice should be first marked off with some sharp tool, and a crevice be made to be followed with a coarse saw, a cross-cut saw with one handle out, or an old saw-mill plate with a handle added, will answer. The saw should follow the marker as closely as possible, to make straight edged blocks. It will take twenty four of these blocks for the first layer of ice, and if one foot thick, 288 blocks will fill the house.

In selecting ice for cutting, take that which is perfectly clear and solid. Air or dirt, frozen in, will not keep so well. Care should be taken also to keep the blocks clean, while laying them in. After the first layer of blocks is put down, and the saw dust or sea weed is packed in solid at the sides, the small crevices around each block should be filled up with pounded ice, or dry snow. If the weather is intensely cold, a very little water may be used at the cracks to make the union perfect. The more completely you can exclude air from the body of the ice, the better it will keep.

Having finished the first layer, sweep off clean, and put in the next, which cement together with the pounded ice like the first. Continue this process, until the last layer, which cover with saw dust, or straw, or sea weed if more convenient, eighteen inches in thickness. If the ice house is properly made and good ice put in it this manner, you will find it very little diminished next May, when you open it to get the first block for the refrigerator.

A subscriber asks if an ice-house can not be filled by pouring in water from time to time and let it freeze. This might perhaps be done on a small scale, should there be a long continued succession of freezing days. But the operation should be very tedious and in the end, even if successful, more expensive than cutting ready formed ice.—Ed.

THOSE MANURES.

We direct especial attention to the article on Artificial Fertilizers, on page 350. There has been an almost incalculable amount of fraud perpetrated upon Farmers, during a few years past in the artificial manure business. Thousands of tons of these articles have been sold at *thirty* to *fifty* dollars per ton, which have not been worth *ten* to the purchasers. This they have proved, and will not be caught in the *same* trap again; but there are enough others who will, and the swindlers continue to fill their own pockets at the expense of new victims. We have upon our programme for the next volume some pretty hard hits at these humbug manures. Our own opinion of the relative value of several fertilizers was given briefly, but definitely, by an illustration in our September issue. We are quite confident that those who buy their fertilizers by the "scales" there given, will not go amiss. Let all read Prof. J.'s article, in this number. Note especially the last paragraph but four, commencing "*The other superphosphates turned out very poorly.*" We have the names and the figures of most of them, which may be given hereafter if deemed necessary and expedient.

In regard to the superphosphates, we would not, for our own use, buy at any price any one of them, except, perhaps, De Burg's or Coe's, no matter what *pretensions* may be put forth as to their being ammoniated, nitrogenized, or superhumanized.—[Ed.

To Dress Skins with Wool or Fur on.—Take two table spoonfulls of saltpetre and one of alum; pulverize freely; mix them together and sprinkle carefully over the flesh side of the skin. Then roll the skins together and let them remain a few days according to the weather. Unroll and scrape them with a chip, dull knife, or draw them over a board fence until they are dry, soft and pliable.

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

DECEMBER, 1856.

[We put down here a summary of various operations, many of them very common ones, it is true, but a simple catalogue like this will often suggest a piece of work that would otherwise be forgotten. The Calendar is adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 42°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north—earlier south. This table will be made out anew every month, and adapted to the season of each year. It will also be greatly enlarged at the planting and sowing seasons.

Explanations.—The letters f. m. l. refers to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month.

Doubling the letters thus: ff., mm., or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

FARM.

The field work of the farm is nearly cut off, and there is now very little absolutely requiring attention. If, however, the work which should have been done last month, was neglected at the proper time it should be attended to at once.

During the long winter evenings, and other leisure moments, look up those back numbers of the Agriculturist, which were laid aside with only a cursory reading during the busy months, and study their contents with care, re-reading even as far back as the commencement of the volume. With the remembrance of the last severe winter fresh before you, look about and see what can be done to guard against losses then experienced or inconveniences then suffered.

Buildings, both for man and beast should be examined, and battened, shingled, or thatched, as may be required. Painting may be done during mild weather, and will wear much better than if done, in or upon the approach of warm weather.

Barn Yards—Keep well supplied with muck, leaves, loam, &c., and guard against drainage or conduct the liquid into a compost pit, if the yard is washed.

Cattle and Horses—See that all are stabled at night in warm quarters and have litter to lie upon. They should also be kept under cover during stormy days. Put balls or knobs on the horns of such cattle as are inclined to be tyrannical.

Cellars—Attend to the directions of last month, if not already done, ventilating freely, but excluding frost.

Cistern—Build ff. both for house and barn.

Compost Heaps—Look to, turning and adding to as necessary.

Cows—Feed cut roots to those giving milk, and watch those about calving.

Draining may still be continued in moderate weather, where there is not too much water. A little frost need not prevent this useful work.

Economy of the Farm—In addition to the directions of last month under this head, see that there is a good pile of posts and rails ready for fencing in the spring, and at least one year's supply of wood, not only at the door, but out and split and under cover. See article in another column, under "A rainy day visit."

Fodder—Give to stock in proper quantities, cutting corn stalks and either steaming by putting into a barrel or hogshead, and pouring on hot water, covering with a blanket; or in mild weather mix with warm water stirring in a little Indian meal. Hay and straw will also spend better by being cut, and is much better for horses especially.

Fowls—Give meat, now that the supply of insects is cut off, to induce laying; scraps from the butchers, or dead animals fed out will answer this purpose. See article elsewhere.

Frost—Guard against its entrance in the cellar, and protect water pipes.

Hogs—See that they are provided with warm apartments and good bedding. Give those fattening a full supply of corn and other solid food previous to killing. Keep yards well supplied with muck and leaves, throwing in a few turfs occasionally.

Horses—Let their stables be warm, and well littered. Cover with blankets when put up, and guard against giving cold water immediately after a hard drive. Carrots are excellent to feed instead of too much grain.

Manures—Examine heaps to see if fermentation is going on as it should. If too dry they will fire-fang, thus destroying their fertilizing properties. Opening them to the rains and cold weather, or pouring water upon them will prevent it. If there is not sufficient warmth turn them over. Continue to collect leaves and muck to mix in. Sprinkle plaster freely with heaps, in the stables, &c.

Plowing stiff clayey soils when not frozen will be advantageous, by exposing the subsoil to the action of frosts, and turning up insects from their winter quarters.

Roots—Cut before feeding to stock, which should be done daily if the supply is sufficient. Carrots are very good for horses, as indeed they are for cattle and sheep, and a few hundred bushels in a large stock, besides saving hay, will materially improve their condition. Give moderate quantities of rutabagas to milch cows *after* milking, else they will give a turnipy taste to the milk; even then, change frequently to carrots or beets.

Roots for family use, keep better by being covered with earth or sand in the cellar or put in tight barrels and mats thrown over, placing them in a cool part. See last number.

Sheep—Have racks for feeding both sheep and other stock. Keep horned cattle from running among them, and by all means see that they are sheltered at night and during storms.

Stacks and Stack Yards—The practice of taking stock half a mile each day and feeding them exposed to the inclemencies of the season is alike destitute of economy and humanity, to say nothing of the ill taste and slovenly appearance such places usually present. Far better draw the fodder of whatever kind to the barn and feed it economically under cover.

Tools—Put in order during leisure moments and lay away for next season.

Turnips and Cabbages—Harvest ff. if not already done. Give tops to cattle and sheep. Gradually cover the straw or ventilator at the top of root pits as the weather becomes severe.

Water—Provide pure, by cisterns or wells in the yard, instead of taking cattle a quarter or half mile with an ax to cut open a pond or brook, thus wasting their manure by the way, and often injuring themselves by slipping down upon icy paths.

Wood—Collect as much as possible previous to heavy snows, and pile up in accessible places or take directly to the house. Have at least *one year's* supply, not only drawn up, but cut, split and piled away under cover by the time spring work commences. It is poor economy to leave the hay or harvest field for a load of wood, or to wait meals until cooked by *green* fuel. Wood cut at this season will sprout again.

ORCHARD AND NURSERY.

Apple Trees—Standards may be set out ff., or until the ground freezes; the roots should never be exposed to a freezing atmosphere. Seedlings may now be root grafted, placing them in boxes of earth in cellars or pits. Scrape rough bark from old trees, thus destroying many eggs deposited by the codling moth. Cut, or rub caterpillar's eggs from twigs wherever they can be found.

Figs—Cover with earth or carry to cellars ff.

Fruit and other deciduous trees may still be pruned, although it is better to leave the cutting of large limbs till February.

Grape Vines—Trim and make cuttings at any time during the month, when the sap is not frozen.

Label Standard trees, especially where you expect to take grafts or buds. Serious injuries have resulted from inattention to this, whole squares of peach and other trees being sent out which were not true to name without any design of dishonesty on the part of the grower. Painted wooden labels written on with a pencil before the paint is quite dry and attached by long copper wires will answer very well. The wires will require lengthening occasionally so as not to cut into the bark.

Manure those trees which are unthrifty or unproductive. Guano, lime and other strong fertilizers which could not be used with safety in the spring, may be advantageously applied now. A mixture of lime and muck is a good manure for the orchard. Muck alone, put around the roots of trees, is an excellent mulch.

Mice—See articles in this and last month's number.

Pear Trees—Like Apple trees may still be set out in mild weather. See also articles in present and last number.

Raspberries—Cut out old canes and cover with earth or straw ff. if not already done.

Seedlings and Seed-beds of tender varieties—Cover with leaves or brush, or protect in pits.

Seeds of many varieties of fruits, such as Apple, Peach Cherry, &c., may still be sown in warm localities.

Shrubs and low-branching trees—Tie up in such manner as to prevent their being broken down by deep snows.

Stakes and labels—Prepare for next spring's use.

Straw up tender trees and shrubs ff., if not done last month.

KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDEN.

Asparagus—Cut and burn the tops, spreading the ashes evenly over the ground. Cover with salt hay, sea-weed or coarse manure.

Bean Poles—Put away, collecting more for next season.

Blackberries—Cut out old canes and set out new ones ff., if not attended to as directed last month.

Cabbage and Califlower—Harvest ff. and keep as directed in November number. Attend to plants in frames, admitting air daily unless the weather is very cold; even then a little air must be let in every few days. Pick off all decaying leaves, else they will render the air impure.

Celery—Harvest ff. and cover as directed last month.

Cold Frames—Watch closely, admitting air from the upper side each day if practicable. In very severe weather give extra covering of straw or mats.

Compost—Prepare and turn over. Have materials in readiness for hot-beds.

Currant and other bushes should be tied up to prevent their being broken down by snows.

Grape Vines may be pruned during the month and cuttings made for spring planting.

Leaves—Collect for covering tender plants, bulbs, &c., also for manure and hot-beds, keeping the latter under cover.

Lettuce—Attend to in frames as cabbage.

Mice—See articles elsewhere.

Mushroom beds—Cover deep with straw or long stable litter, and in severe weather spread mats over them to prevent freezing. If exposed to rains, examine the beds and remove the wet straw, covering with dry.

Parsnips—Dig and store ff. for winter use, covering them in a cool part of the cellar.

Pumpkins and squashes—Place in cool dry situations away from frost.

Raspberries—Cut out old canes and cover ff. if not done last month. We prefer a covering of earth although if they are pegged or otherwise confined down, straw, litter or salt hay, answers a very good purpose. New plantations may be made as long as the ground remains open and the weather mild.

Rhubarb—Cover crowns and surrounding earth with straw, litter, or coarse manure to induce early starting in the spring—Roots may still be set out in open weather.

Salsify—See article on another page.

Sea-Kale—Cover as rhubarb.

Spinach—Cover as directed last month.

Strawberries—Cover ff. if not already done, with leaves if they can be had; if not, with coarse manure, salt hay or straw. Plants need more protection upon heavy soil than light, as the action of the frost is more inclined to throw the roots out upon the former.

Tools—Repair if necessary, and put away under cover.

Trench or subsoil and ridge stiff clayey soils.

Turnips—Harvest ff., and put in cellars or make pits for them in the open ground, covering as directed on page 331 of last month's number.

Weeds and Brush—Gather and burn instead of leaving them for rats and mice to nest in during the winter.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

There is but little that can be done in the Flower Garden at this season, except securing tender plants and shrubs from being broken down by snows, or injured by severe frosts. To guard against the former, the branches of low shrubs and bushes should be drawn in and secured by tying either to the body or to stakes. For evergreens it is often beneficial to shake off the snow which lodges upon the foliage, and shovel away from the lower branches.

Tender roses, vines and shrubs, should now be strawed up, if not already done, to protect them from the sudden changes in the atmosphere, which is often more injurious than severe cold. Barrels or boxes, with holes bored in them, will answer a very good purpose to place over low plants.

The Lawn and paths should be cleaned of leaves and everything put in neat order. Though not the season for flowers—there is no necessity for an neglected or an unsightly lawn and garden even in the winter season.

Planting of *hardy* trees and shrubs may still be done when there is no frost.

If spring flowering bulbs which should have been put in during October or November, are still out of ground, plant at once, and cover with leaves as directed last month.

Lift dahlias and gladiolas, if any are still remaining in the ground, and put them in dry cellars or other cool places out of the reach of frost.

Carnations, Pinks, Pansies, Anemones, Stocks and Wall flowers—Protect in frames or cover with leaves, if not attended to in November.

GREEN AND HOT HOUSES.

These will now need special attention, more particularly in regard to heat and ventilation. Both these matters are frequently overdone, the house being kept too hot by night and too cool by day. The condition of the house ought to approximate as nearly as possible to the circumstances under which we find the plants growing in a state of nature, a difficult matter to accomplish with our present defective furnaces. As far as possible, keep plants growing during the day, and let them rest at night. Camellias will require frequent syringing; also Ixoras, Geissomerias, and other plants, subject to red spider. If not already done, repot, prune, and put down cuttings of Fuchsias. As a general thing, it is better to make new plants, than grow the old ones. If you want large plants, give plenty of pot-room, and water regularly. Pelargoniums should be placed near the glass, and pinched in occasionally. Some of the Hyacinths, &c., hould be placed in the warmest part of the house for early bloom. Also some Azalias, which should have an increased supply of water. Finish potting annuals such as Nemophila, Clarkia, Schizanthus, Lobelia. &c. Bring forward Cinerarias and Calceolarias, and keep them free from the green fly. Epiphillums in flower will require to be freely watered, Chinese Primulas, will now be coming into flower and should be freely watered.

Bring forward roses for forcing, repotting those which require it. Keep the atmosphere moist by frequent syringing and sprinkling the floors. Cover the houses with shutters in severe weather and before heavy snows. Arrange plants in a convenient tasty manner where they can at all times be looked to. Look out for the first appearance of green-fly, scale and mealy bug, and show them no quarter. Stir up the surface-soil occasionally, and keep pots and everything else clean and tidy.

IMPROVED FARM STOCK.

Among the branches of our agricultural progress, none is more conspicuous or gratifying, than the increase of the better kinds of domestic animals. Although the last three or four years have witnessed the importations of them by hundreds, still they come into the country, induced by the high prices they bring, and the growing demand for them by our enterprising farmers. And there is good sense in it. Our meats are better since the infusion of improved blood into our cattle, sheep and swine. We cannot say quite so much for the poultry, for we do not think the foreign varieties of fowls have done so much in that line, except the Dorkings—the best *meated* chicken, probably, alive. Yet the Bremen goose is a decided improvement on the common goose of the country—larger, more juicy, and delicate in its flesh. The larger varieties of duck, too, like the Aylesbury and Poland, are a decided addition to both the weight and flavor of the common kind.

But in the flesh of no one animal is the difference so great as between the long-wooled and Southdown sheep of England, and the old-fashioned, long-legged, fence-jumpers of our country, and the merino. The latter is a *wool* sheep, solely, and should be reared only for that object; the other thing should not be reared at all, not having the anatomy for taking on good flesh, but so mischievous in its habits as to make it a nuisance on any well-regulated farm; while the mutton of the improved English varieties is delicious in every particular of flavor and juicyness. It is as proverbial that the Americans are not a mutton-eating people, as it is that the English are a mutton-loving race. The reason is, that here we are unused to *good* mutton, while there it abounds in every market. The trumpery things with which our markets are crammed from one end of the year to the other, are purchased only by the poor. Our better livers will not touch it, except in the way of an occasional good saddle, chop, or leg, when these can be got.

But we are improving. Really choice mutton sells as high in our markets as the best beef. It can be produced cheaper by the farmer, and should be only abundant to induce our good providers to have it constantly on their tables. Venison is usually considered a luxury, but it is not half so much of a luxury as a well fatted Southdown. The one is a dry meat, requiring artificial dressings to render it palatable, while the other cooks itself, and furnishes its own best gravies. If our city butchers would set about discriminating between the breeds and qualities of sheep as they are brought into market, paying good prices for the best, and discarding the mean ones, our farmers would soon take the hint, and produce none but the best; but so long as they continue, as they do now, to take culls, and everything that is offered to them, at pretty much the same price per pound, so long will our markets have more poor mutton than good in them, and the consumers, who are willing to pay for what a thing is really worth, can only enjoy the occasional luxury of a choice joint of mutton. The meat of the improved sheep is good in every part of the carcase—that of the common and merino, is *really* good nowhere. A great difference.—[Ed.

OUR RECENT CATTLE SHOWS—THEIR MORALS.

Our National, State, and County Cattle Shows are fast developing a new phase of character. The term "National," as connected with an Agricultural Society, or Exhibition, may be a myth, so far as any connection with the improvement of our Agriculture at large is concerned. To us, as we have watched the progress of our National Agricultural Association from its birth, it appears to be an amiable sort of mutual-admiration-Society, existing pretty much by the exertions of a few very worthy and respectable Eastern gentlemen, who sport it as their annual recreation whenever a favorable locality turns up, in the neighborhood of any city where a subscription of sufficient capital can be raised, for the amusement of sundry and divers pleasure seeking people of our great towns, and elsewhere, who have time, and pocket money to attend "the races." This institution, as two or three experiments have shown, has been unable to hold a legitimate agricultural exhibition, from its want of connection with any tangible interest of the kind; and for the last few years it has taken to the "improvement of horses," the movements of which now constitute the chief, and indeed, only paying feature in its performances. "Horse-racing" and "trotting-matches" were formly considered "immoral" in their tendencies, and as such "the race course" has been, for the last twenty years, gradually discountenanced by our staid, order-loving communities; but as now transformed, patronized, and fostered by the National Agricultural Society into "trials of speed," although betting, and all its attendant benefits and practices are, with the other amusements, permitted, it is ascertained to be a highly intellectual and moral pageant for "the promotion of agriculture!" In short, the cattle shows at Philadelphia and Boston, this year, were trotting matches, with a few cattle, and other farm stock thrown into them by way of episode.

The annual exhibitions of the State Society of New-York, we are happy to say have been carried through thus far without deviation from its original intent, and in accordance with its upright, honorable character. Agricultural improvement, in its legitimate sense, has always controlled the views of its practical, and earnest managers. The elements, weatherwise, were unpropitious this year to its treasury, by keeping back thousands of its wonted attendants; but we have no fears that this pioneer and pattern institution will not hold the successful tenor of its way, so long as it shall be as discreetly managed as heretofore, and now.

Connecticut too, a young beginner, as a State Society, has done manfully, and promises to fulfill all its legitimate functions much to the advantage of the farmers of that most persevering and thrifty little State. Success to her efforts.

But for Ohio, that noble, stalwart elder sister of the Western Galaxy, our fears of late have been somewhat excited. Commencing at Cincinnati in 1850, we attended its first exhibition, and also its last one at Cleveland, in September of this year, with two or three intermediate ones at Columbus, and elsewhere. No State Society in the Union has been more successful in its cattle shows, nor swept such heavy sums into the treasury derived from its exhibitions. But we this year saw, with great mortification, that it is rapidly tending towards the besetting sin of the times, in extending its patronage to horse-trotting, and its attendant vices. Placing, for the first time, a straight-laced Quaker at its head—a horse breeder, and horse-trainer, we found, on an inspection of the grounds, that full two-thirds of their ample area of near thirty acres were appropriated to a trotting and racing course, with judges stand, and an amphitheatre, erected for the crowd—race course fashion—at "a quarter" a seat! For three days, this ring, railed in for half a mile in circuit, was the main point of attraction to the great majority of the "forty-thousand" visiters, lining it four, and five deep, and wildly excited with the feats of the various quadrupeds of the "Hawk" families, and other horses coursing over it, among which those of the worthy "President" were not the least conspicuous, either for speed, or for "bottom." Nimble footed roadsters in harness, and under saddle—stallion, gelding, and filly—all were there, and to eke out the frolic, sallow-faced, lank-sided spinsters mounted the racing nags and blood stallions, and coursed over the grounds time and again at the very top of their running speed under the shouts, yells, and applauses of the multitude, with as little trepidation as a troup of circus women would ride their antics over the tanbark. Yet all this occurred under the placarded "regulations," stuck up all over the grounds that "no shouting," or "clapping" would be allowed. "—— by order of the President!" Pretty well, thought we, for an Ohio Quaker, on this day of grace, in the nineteenth century!

Draft-horses, we believe, were there, and possibly received some little attention, but scarce any one that we inquired of could inform us of their feats, or excellence. There were, as usual, great herds of cattle of the choicest varieties. We saw these crowded into two separate little corners for display before the several classes of judges, and on the last day they were paraded for a march in the "grand cavalcade" but they were especially ignored in any other display, the horse-races being the absorbing attraction. We have only to say, if such are the proceedings under that particular Quaker administration, let Ohio get back under the lead of the Gentiles as rapidly as possible.

And the minor Societies—those of counties and towns—are getting into this pestilent imitation of trotting matches, and women riding, as rapidly as possible; and the secret of all is it *pays!* that is, it draws money into the treasury. Farmer's daughters—modest, well behaved girls at home, are here coaxed out to exhibit themselves as fast riders, and made subjects of the ribald jests and passing jeers of thoughtless men and boys, to attract a crowd, and gratify the vanity of a set of managers, not for the benefit of the real farmer, but to build up the immediate interests of the horse-jockeys. How long will it take, at this rate, to run our once truly excellent cattle shows literally, "into the ground," in the estimation of all right minded people? We may recur to this subject again.—Ed.

FARM NOTES &C.—BY S. W.

Fall Treatment of Soils—Sorghum Saccharum—Curing Corn fodder—Good varieties of Corn—Dairy regions.

Fall treatment of Soils.—If the ground is a little frozen so much the better for garden trenching or deep fall plowing. If the soil is heavy and tenacious throw coarse refuse or long manure in the trench; but if it has been well manured the fall or spring before, you may trust to the action of frost to make it pulverulent, provided always that it is well underdrained; then the ridges in the spring will be friable and only need raking smooth, with perhaps a little fine or liquid manure to aid early vegetation. One spade deep will give you a trench ten inches deep with a ridge of the same hight. Deeper spading in a heavy soil will insure larger crops, but I get great yields from one thorough spading, with only a forking over after peas, to get a second crop of transplanted beets, cabbages, or corn sown for fodder.

If a soil is hungry sand or gravel, neither plow nor spade it in the fall; but a top dressing of nitrogenous manure with a coating of tenacious clay, should by all means be applied to it in the fall or early winter; frost will pulverize the clay, which with the manure is to be plowed under in the spring. Clay enables a loose soil to save the ammonia it is so continually losing from its lack of adhesiveness and chemical affinity for ammonia salts, which clay possess in an eminent degree. Hence, while clay needs the mechanical aid of frost to keep it friable and in a state to mix with coarse materials; sand and gravel need clay to bring it into a condition to hold and economise the compounds of nitrogen.

Antwerp Raspberries.—If not done before bend down the cane to the ground now, and put earth on the ends to keep them down, some lose straw or sea weed thrown over the bent vines will catch the light drifting snow as it did here last winter saving every plant in full vitality.

Sorghum Saccharum—Or Sugar Millet.—A correspondent of an Ohio paper says, there is no humbug in this plant, that it is precisely suited to the climate of Ohio, (If so it will succeed in the warm regions of New-York). He also avers that he can make sugar from it at an expense of five cents a pound, in proof of which he sends a lump of his own making to the Editor. It is also valuable as others have proved both for the summer feeding and winter fodder for stock. Stall fed cattle prefer it to any other food. It requires the same rich soil and early planting, and precisely the same culture as Indian corn, so as to perfect its saccharine in hot weather.

Curing Corn grown for fodder.—I this day examined a load of young stalks cut early in September, on its way from the shocks in the field to the stable. It was the Ohio Dent variety, stalks seven feet long, $\frac{5}{8}$ths to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter. The leaves were dry and so tough as not to crack when twisted. The stalk was dry on the outside, but full of sweet juice to within a foot of the tassel, which was dry and sweet. Had these stalks, instead of standing out in the field, been thrown into a heap even after drying in the sun, they would have heated and soured. Mr. Wright says he draws them in from the field no faster than his large stock, horses included, can eat them while their juices are sweet. Those he keeps over winter on his hay mow &c., will soon be so dry as to crystalise their sugar. He obtained more than twelve tons to the acre in the green state. It was sown in drills at different periods; and much of it fed green to milch cows during the long drouth. That which was cured for fodder was cut as soon as its juices were sweet, dried by spreading a day or more and then stacked. I think the stalks are hardly as sweet as those of the edible sweet corn, but of a taller growth considering its close sowing in the drills.

Good varieties of Corn.—The Ohio Dent Corn has been successfully cultivated by Mr. W., and 170 bushels of ears grown to the acre in the hot and very dry summer of 1854, but as the stalks are too large and woody to be cut up, or even edible when cut, he prefers the Dutton or the long eight rowed varieties, for the benefit of the extra fodder. The brown King Philip variety has succeeded well this season, and owing to its very rapid growth and early maturity farmers like it for second planting to fill up gaps, &c. It perfects a much larger kernel than the seed from the Patent Office. If our climate is not the paradise of an Indian corn climate, it needs only a little extra pains to compensate for the deficiency. I never yet failed of a perfect garden crop of corn when planted in season.

The blessings of the Dairy regions.—A farmer from this cereal paradise, after returning from a visit east, to the counties of Chenango, Madison, and Otsego, says he never before realised the fact that a kind Providence had equalized the good things rural; for although the tiny corn looked as if it would have to be taken in to the kitchen fire, yet such pastures of white clover, such butter and cheese, and such large milking smiling cows, are not to be seen in our calcareous dried up pastures in in August. S. W.

Waterloo, Nov. 8, 1856.

STORING PARSNIPS.

These roots are usually left in the ground until spring. They have a long imprisonment, in which it is impossible to get at them, either for table use or for market. It is very desirable to have a portion of the crop at least accessible at all times. They are more salable in the village markets during the winter months then in the spring, frequently bringing a dollar a bushel. We have found them to keep perfectly well piled up on the south side of a wall, and covered with sea weed or old hay. The covering should be eighteen inches or more thick. Stored in this way, they are always ready for market, and you can take advantage of high prices. while your neighbors, who do not take the papers, have their parsnips frozen into the earth.—[Ed.

HOGS HAIR.

Farmers, who slaughter their own hogs, generally allow this article to go to waste. In the large butcheries in the cities, it is carefully saved for use in the arts, and forms a considerable item in the profits of the business. It would not pay, perhaps, for those who have but a few pigs to kill, to send the hair to a distant market. But still it should not be left to waste. It is a very powerful fertilizer, and if saved and put into the vegetable forder next spring, it will give a good account of itself. It is particularly valuable for celery trenches, giving a large growth of tender juicy stalks. Save all the waste of the scalding tubs for the garden.—[Ed.

Agricultural Lectures at Yale College.—We call particular attention to the announcement of these lectures, in the advertising columns. Of the ability of Prof. Johnson we have spoken elsewhere. These lectures will be a rich treat, as well as a source of much practical information to all our young men, as well as those older, who can possibly leave home for a season in the winter. The course on Agricultural Chemistry will discuss pretty fully the principles of Agricultural Science,—such as the composition of plants, nature and sources of their food, soils, manures, crops, &c. That on Practical Agriculture, will form a practical compliment to the scientific course, and cannot but be instructive to those actually engaged in agricultural occupations. Send to Prof. Johnson, and get full particulars.—Ed.

Mowing Machines.—At the trial of Mowing Machines exhibited at the late Fair of the American Institute, at the Crystal Palace, and tested near Newark, N. J., before the Committee appointed for the purpose, R. L. Allen, of New-York, received the premium for best Mower—a Silver Medal; and M. G. Hubbard, of Penn Yan, N. Y., the premium for second best machine—a Bronze Medal.

THE NEW SUGAR PLANT.

ABOUT THE DISTRIBUTION OF SEED, &c.

Since our last, we have gathered many facts concerning this new plant. A number of letters have been received on the subject, for which we can not make room. Some who have tried it on a small scale, are disposed to speak discouragingly. But on the whole, there are strong indications that it is to become one of the great staple crops of the country. We are not confident enough in this opinion, however, to advise any one to "invest" largely. Let it be thoroughly tried another season. There are indications that speculation in the seed will run high before the spring planting season.

We have been fortunate in securing a considerable supply of seed, for which we have already been offered a large sum, but we intend to distribute the whole *free of charge* to such of the Agriculturist subscribers as desire to give it a trial. As the expense of the seed, and distribution will be quite large, we can not afford to pay postage. Those desiring the seed will please send a post-paid envelop directed to themselves. We are testing our several samples by sprouting small portions of each. On this account, and to give time for all who may wish to send for it, the distribution will not be made until the latter part of January, when what we have now on hand will be equally divided among all applicants. It will depend upon the total number of these, whether we can send to each, one, two, or three hundred seeds. We have 300,000 to 500,000 apparently perfect seeds, estimating from the number in a single ounce.

By sending this out free, none will get "bitten" should it not turn out well, while a great supply of seed will thus be secured for another season should there be a call for it. We think we are doing a positive benefit to the country, by this course, and have no fears as to our own reward.

Those who have already forwarded envelops will please wait patiently for a few weeks, as the seeds will come in due time, without fail—loss by mail alone excepted.

We suggest that now is a good time to send on new subscribers and in the same letter enclose envelops for seed. But, take notice; that this is not a *condition*. Any subscriber desiring to give it a trial is invited to send for the seed at any time previous to January 15.

In regard to its adaptability to sugar-making, the most extensive and the best experiments yet made, are those of Mr. Richard Peters, of Atlanta, near Calhoun, Gordon County, Ga., who has kindly furnished us with some of the details of his experience. He says: "This year I planted one patch April 15, another May 18, on land that would produce, during a 'seasonable' year, forty bushels of corn per acre, and this year not over twenty bushels.

Seed sown carelessly in drills, three feet apart, covered with a one-horse plow; intending to "chop out" to a stand of one stalk six inches apart in the row; but failed to get a good stand, as the seed came up badly from the deep and irregular covering. Worked out, same as for Corn, plowing twice and hoeing once.

By suggestion of Gov. Hammond, of South Carolina, I determined to give the syrup-making a fair trial; consequently ordered from the Messrs. Winship, of Atlanta, a very complete Horse-power Mill, with vertical iron rollers, that has worked admirably, crushing out juice for eight gallons of syrup per hour, worked by two mules, with one hand to put in the cane, and a boy to drive.

On the 13th of September, finding the seed fully ripe, I had the fodder pulled, and the seed heads cut.

Yield of fodder per acre, 1,100 to 1,300 pounds.

Yield of seed per acre, 25 bushels of 36 pounds to the bushel.

First trial of mill, 70 average canes gave 20 quarts of juice.

Six hundred and six average canes, passed once through the rollers, gave 38 gallons 1 quart of juice; passed a second time through, gave 2 gallons of juice; the 40 gallons 1 quart juice gave 8 gallons thick syrup.

I carefully measured an eighth of an acre, having the best canes and the best stand, and another eighth having the poorest canes and the poorest stand. The result I give below, the canes having passed once through the roller.

BEST EIGHTH OF AN ACRE.

Yield of juice from 3,315 Canes	253 gallons
Yield of syrup from 253 gallons juice	58½ gallons
Rates per acre of syrup	468 gallons

POOREST EIGHTH OF AN ACRE.

Yield of juice from 2,550 canes	179 gallons
Yield of syrup from 179 gallons juice	43¼ gallons
Rate per acre of syrup	346 gallons
Weight of 30 selected canes	49½ lbs.
Weight of juice pressed out	25⅜ lbs.
Weight of crushed cane	23 lbs.
Loss in crushing	½ lbs.
Weight of crushed cane dried in sun	9⅛ lbs.

The following tests were made at the mill by Dr. Robert Battey, of Rome, Ga., a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy:

Specific gravity of juice	1.085
Specific gravity of syrup	1.335
Specific gravity of New-Orleans syrup	1.321
Thermometer applied to syrup	77°
Thermometer applied to juice	70°
Saccharometer applied to juice	25½°

The juice should be placed in the boilers immediately on being pressed out, then boiled slowly, until the green scum ceases to rise; then stir a teaspoonful of air-slacked lime to five gallons of juice; continue skimming and boiling until the syrup thickens and hangs down in flakes on the rim of the dipper.

I have made the clearest syrup by simply boiling and skimming, without lime or other clarifiers.

The lime is requisite to neutralize a portion of the acid in the juice; the true proportion must be determined by well-conducted experiments.

The cost of making the syrup in upper Georgia, in my opinion, will not exceed ten to fifteen cents per gallon. This I shall be able to test another season, by planting and working up fifty acres of the cane.

I am satisfied that this plant will enable every farmer and planter in the Southern States to make at home all the syrup reqired for family use; and I believe that our chemists will soon teach us how to convert the syrup into sugar, for export, as one of the staples of our favored clime.

Obtaining such unlooked-for success with the Chines Sugar Cane, I concluded to try our common corn. From a 'new ground,' planted 3 by 3, one stalk to a hill, a week beyond the roasting-ear stage, I selected thirty stalks.

Weight of 30 stalks	35½ lbs.
Weight of juice	15¼ lbs.
Weight of crushed stalks	19½ lbs.
Loss in crushing	⅓ lb.
Yield of Syrup	1½ pts.

The syrup of a peculiar disagreeable taste, entirely unfit for table use."

THE WYANDOTT CORN.

To the numerous enquiries in regard to the value of this variety, we are unable to respond very definitely. In one case at least it has given high satisfaction on Long-Island. In others the contrary has been the case. We hear it highly spoken of on Staten Island, in a few places in New-Jersey, and at several points farther south. On the whole it *appears* to be valuable for those States south of Pennsylvania, except the mountainous and colder localities. For Pennsylvania, and those States in the same latitude it is not yet sufficiently acclimated to be depended upon. For places north of the latitudes of New-York, we deem it uncertain. The following letter from an intelligent correspondent at Buffalo is a fair sample of many others.[Ed.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

From the Patent Office, I received some of the Wyandott Corn. Having seen it mentioned in the reports of that office, as being very prolific, I regarded the thirty six kernels which had been sent to me as a great prize. So much so in fact, that I had conscientious scruples as to the propriety of appropriating it all to myself, and therefore divided it with my neighbors.

I planted the twelve kernels which I retained, and had it treated with great care through the season. It grew to an enormous size, producing two to four, and in some cases I think five stalks to each kernel. There it stood some ten feet high, the grandest looking corn stalks I ever saw in this climate, but not a vestage of an ear did it produce in any shape or form. This I believe has been the experience of those with whom I divided the seed, so much for the famous Wyandott Corn. In a more southern latitude I doubt not, it is all that is claimed for it, but here it seems to be a failure. Does it mature on Long-Island? O. A.

Buffalo, Nov. 10, 1856.

Distribution of Seed.—Mr. J. I. Goldsmith, Waverly, Morgan Co., Ill., writes us that he has some of the Sugar Millet, the New-Zealand Spinach, and Yellow Dourah Corn, and that he will be happy to send samples of the seeds to any of the subscribers of the Agriculturist who will send him a stamped envelop directed to themselves. This is a good way to send for seeds. If any one directs an envelop to himself it will be more likely to come right. We hope all who write to us for information, seeds &c., will follow this plan.—Ed.

MILKING BY MACHINERY.

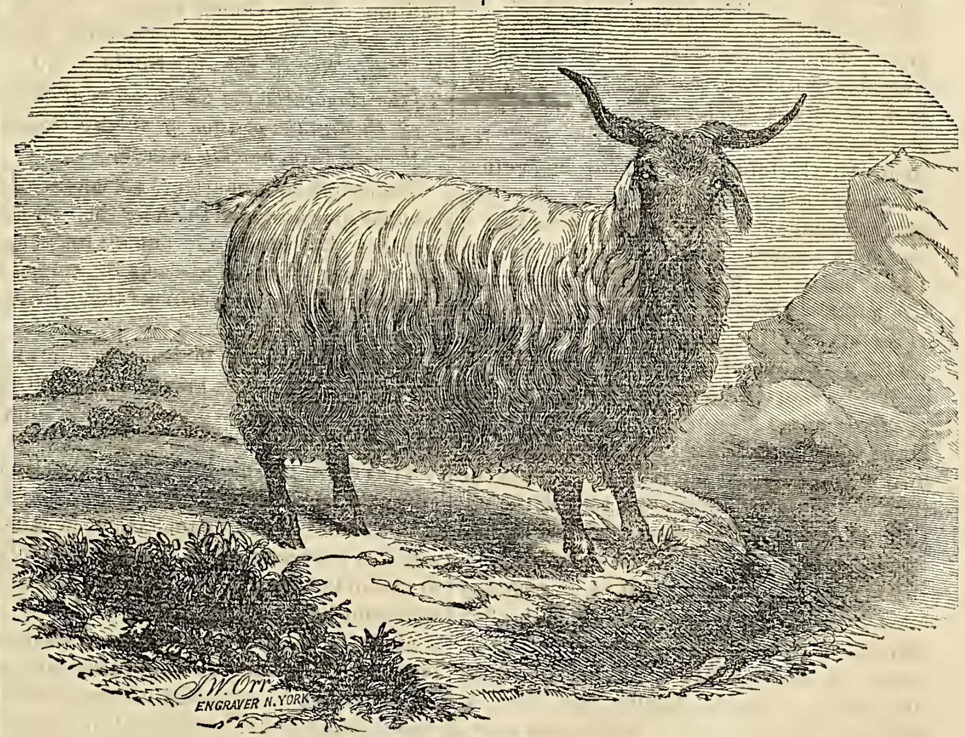
It is a little surprising that there have not been more attempts made to construct some kind of machinery to perform the laborious operation of milking. It is estimated that there are in the United States at the present time, about seven millions of milch cows, each one of which must be milked twice a day during nine months of the year. This estimate is doubtless too high, and to speak within bounds, we will take the number at three millions. Allowing six minutes only for the time occupied at each milking, and it would require the constant work of SIXTY THOUSAND persons, milking steadily ten hours a day—that is, each one to milk fifty cows a day. We have known persons who said they loved to milk, but there are very few such, and probably nine out of ten who have this work to do, consider it one of the most laborious and disagreeable operations of the farm.

Now can there not be some simple, cheap implement constructed, which shall imitate the common operation of milking, and even perform it better than three-fourths of milkmen or milk-maids know how to do it? We throw out the suggestion for the consideration of ingenious mechanics. Considerable noise was made a year or two since about an apparatus for drawing off the milk with a little tube thrust into the teat and held there by a bit of India rubber. We condemned the contrivance at the time, and for a year past have heard nothing of it. A perfect milking apparatus must imitate the natural method of drawing milk by the calf. The cow will not "give down" her usual quota of milk without this. The pushing, squeezing motion of the hands is as yet the nearest imitation.

A New Hampshire Yankee has recently applied for a patent for a milking machine, arranged by attaching four long flexible tubes to an air-tight pail, upon the side of which is a small air-pump. The tubes are applied to the teats by means of India rubber sheaths or sacs. The working of the air-pump produces a vacuum, and the milk runs out into the pail. The inventor is quite sanguine of success, but if our theory be correct, that the cow will not continue a *full* secretion of milk without mechanical manipulations upon the bag and teats, this machine will also prove a failure. Experiment will be the only safe test of their value. If these machines are brought into market, let them be tried by milking a number of cows alternately, with and without them. Thus; three or four cows may be milked with the machine for two weeks, and two weeks without them, and the amount of milk be carefully measured and noted each day. At the same time an equal number of cows should be milked without the machines while the others are milked with them, and vice versa. This will show whether any increase or diminution is to be attributed to the manner of drawing the milk, or to other circumstances, such as variation in kind, quality, or amount of feed. —[ED.

MALE CASHMERE GOAT.
Live weight 155 lbs.; weight of fleece 7 lbs. The propertv of Richard Peters, of Atlanta, Ga.

We present herewith cuts made by J. W. Orr, of a male and female Cashmere Goat, owned by Richard Peters Esq., of Atlanta, Georgia. These animals were introduced here from the East in 1849, by Dr. J. B. Davis of S. C., from whom they were mostly purchased by Mr. Peters, in 1853. His flock now consists of twenty five head. A few animals are owned by other gentlemen, but this is the largest collection. How far they may become a useful addition to the stock of the country, is not yet fully determined; those who have given the most attention to the subject appear to cherish high hopes of them.



FEMALE CASHMERE GOAT.
Live weight, 102 lbs.; weight of yearly fleece 4½ lbs. The property of Richard Peters, Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. Peters says: "That they are not the Thibet Shawl Goat, is proven by their total dissimilarity to a specimen of that breed in possession of the subscriber; the latter variety having only an under-coating of a few ounces—which portion of its fleece is alone valuable. Works on Natural Science show that they are not the common Angora Goat, of the Province of that name in Asiatic Turkey, as that animal is of varied color, with a fleece of indifferent value. They have become known as "Cashmere Goats," from the pure white color and fineness of their fleeces, and their undoubted Eastern origin.

The fleeces of the matured bucks weigh from six to seven pounds. Ewes yield from three to four pounds. The flesh of the crosses is superior to most mutton, tender and delicious, making them a desirable acquisition to our food producing animals. The ease with which they are kept, living as they do on weeds, briers, browse, and other coarse herbage, fits them for many portions of our country where sheep could not be sustained to advantage; while their ability and disposition to defend themselves from the attacks of dogs, evidence a value peculiar to this race of animals. They are free from all diseases to which sheep are liable, hardy and prolific; and experience has proven that they readily adapt themselves to all portions of the United States."

HORSES—THEIR CRUEL TREATMENT.

TWO CASES IN ILLUSTRATION—THE HORSES' PETITION.

As we came to our office this morning, we saw at one of the wharves in the city a heavily laden cart, to which was attached a poor relic of what may once have been as noble and high spirited a steed as ever roamed the pasture field. A wheel of the cart had caught against a block which might have been easily moved out of the way, but the lazy inhuman jehu of a driver had mounted the already over-laden vehicle, and by loud vociferations and oaths was urging the scarcely animated creature onward. In vain the poor animal pulled, and backed and pulled again. Every bone and joint of his feeble frame seemed to crack under the effort. What did the driver do? "Why of course he got down, and thus lightening the load, moved the block away, and took hold of a spoke to assist his faithful servant." No such thing! Infuriated by the ineffectual efforts of the horse, and by the sound of his own *in*human, fiendish cursings, he seized a cart rung (stake) and "ca-thunk" it came down upon the bony rump. Another and still another effort was repaid by a repetition of the blow. Heart sick at the sight we ventured a word of expostulation, and received—a horrid imprecation—a call for heaven's curse for our interference. "The horse was his *own*, we'd better attend to our own business." At the risk of feeling the rung upon our own head, we pushed the obstruction aside and the horse started up the street, pulling along his unreasonable load, *and* his fiendish driver. And so he goes day after day, week after week and month after month, until he finally drops down dead, when a chain is fastened to his neck and his skin and bones, happily insensible to pain, are dragged over the cobblestone street to the boat and carried to "barren island."

And what return does this horse receive during the long years of servitude. A scanty morning and evening feed of coarse hay, with perhaps a half peck of bran or shorts, when the thirsty appetite of his owner does not exhaust all the earnings of the day for drams. For a resting place he has a bleak, open stable, with the ground, or at best a filthy unlittered floor, to lie down upon.

We wish the above truthful delineation of the hardships of one animal could be set down as an isolated case. But unhappily this is not so. Hundreds of these faithful animals, both here and elsewhere, fare no better. There are, however, many noble exceptions among the cartmen of this city. There are hundreds who treat these dumb animals with all possible kindness. They are fed in the best manner, carefully housed and bedded at night, and on no account over loaded by day. Not long since we had 1½ tons of paper landed upon the dock just at night, and called upon the nearest cartman to take it up to our office. We paid him for the job, and were not a little pleased to see him make two loads of it, remarking that "his horse could aisily take it all at once, but he had wrought hard all day and he would not over-load him to save a bit o' time." This was a humane feeling even though exercised towards a dumb animal. The sleek coat and elastic steps of that horse showed at once the character of his owner. But there are too few men of this class. Some of them at least read this journal and we take the liberty of suggesting that they can do something towards ameliorating the condition of horses. Why not get up a regular society having for its object "Improvement in the treatment of Working Horses." We promise them all the aid that the daily, weekly and monthly journals under our care can afford them.

Though we have, perhaps, said enough at this time, we can not close without introducing from an old Irish journal the following petition of the Dublin horses. It will do very well to substitute New-York, Boston, Buffalo, Albany, &c., for Dublin.—Ed.

To the Honorable, the Corporation of the City of Dublin, the petition of sundry Horses in the said City, humbly sheweth,

That your petitioners are conscious of the humble rank assigned them by their Creator, and that they cheerfully submit to the preeminence of man in the scale of animal beings, by yielding the labor of their lives for his benefit.

That in return for this submission to the first of animals which inhabit our globe, they expect to be treated with justice and humanity.

That these two cardinal virtues, which are of universal obligation from man to beast, as well as from man to man, have been violated towards your petitioners in many particulars, of which they beg leave to lay a detail before your honorable Board.

Many of us, after having served as coach horses for fifteen or twenty years, are sold to carters, and compelled to drag loads of wood beyond our strength. Our failure is severely punished by being beaten in the most cruel manner, not only on our bodies and limbs, but on our heads, by which means many of us have lost the use of our eyes. The food we receive while in the hands of these our new masters, is scanty in quantity, and by no means suited to the state of our teeth, which are both decayed and lessened in number by the effects of age upon them.

Many of your petitioners are compelled to work all the week, and instead of enjoying the benefit of rest on the Sabbath day, which the Creator of the world intended equally for the benefit of man and beast, we are hired out to sailors and others who know nothing of the peculiar nature of our species, and who by hard riding and starving us, greatly impair our strength, and thereby render us unfit for the labor of the ensuing week.

Many of us who are the property of citizens and kept in livery stables, and thereby we are so much injured in our strength as to disappoint the expectations of our masters, when we are called into their service.

Many of us are kept idle during the week, and ridden only on Sundays, by which means we lose our health, for want of exercise, and afterwards are obliged, unwillingly, to share with our masters in the profanation of a day allotted to the beasts for rest, and to man for the public worship of his Maker.

Many of us, who are used only as carriage horses, are taken out of warm stables and exposed for two or three hours at the doors of gentlemen's houses, at all hours of the evening and night, in cold and wet weather, waiting until young ladies have fitted their craws and bishops, or till young masters have fitted their collars and fixed their shoe straps, by which means we have caught colds, and have afterwards suffered a great decay in our health and strength.

Your petitioners having briefly stated their grievances, humbly request that the corporation would redress them in such a manner as their wisdom shall direct. They shall trespass upon the time of the corporation only while they suggest to them the following reflections:

That, as the enjoyments of your petitioners in life are *few*, compared with those of man, their wants and sufferings should be in the same proportion. That food, rest, health, and warmth constitute the principal part of their happiness. That the cruelty of depriving them of these comforts is enhanced by their not being supplied with a hundred enjoyments which are peculiar to man. That they are, notwithstanding, connected with him by many common ties. They were called to partake with him of the blessings of existence, by the same almighty and benevolent Being; they enjoy with him the fruits of the divine goodness, in air, light, water and food; and they share with him in the daily protection of the same kind and bountiful Parent of the universe.

Signed, in behalf of all the horses in Dublin, by

BAY,
BLACK,
SORREL,
GRAY,
STAR,
ROAN.
} A Committee for the purpose of petitioning the Corporation.

The number of sheep in the British Islands is estimated at 35,000,000, worth two hundred and fifty millions of dollars! producing 157,000,000 pounds of wool, worth fifty millions of dollars annually.

In the Choctaw language *Missah*, is literally, "*old big*." *Sippah* and *sippah*, signifies "*strong*," hence Mississippi, is old, big, strong river; and not the "father of waters" literally.

PUERPERAL, OR MILK FEVER IN COWS.

BY W. PIERCE, RAVENA, PORTAGE COUNTY, OHIO.

This disease appears to increase both in prevalence and fatality. A few years ago its occurrence was so rare, that it was not investigated, neither was it then so fatal. It is now so common on the Western Reserve, or Northern Ohio, that the dairy men begin to fear sad havoc amongst their cows. I will give my opinion of it:

It is evident that all who keep cows have been striving for the best milkers, and *improving* for that purpose, and have so improved in quantity that it is now a common yield to get from twenty to thirty-five quarts a day. This enormous flow of milk overtaxes the system at a time when the animal is under the influence of reproductive excitement. And another reason is, it is of common occurrence to have a cow go from one to twenty days over the usual time. This is indicative of a high and plethoric condition of the system, which retards the maturing of the fœtus, and keeps back the development or flow of the milk which is necessary to the natural and easy parturition. Another reason is, it has become a general practice to stable cows up to the time of calving, and when turned out they are more liable to take cold by laying on the ground, and the hot sun also affects them, and thus they are liable to fevers and inflammation, and the cows that are good milkers and give a great quantity, are more liable to a reabsorption of the milk. A flush of feed after parturition is apt to produce reabsorption of milk; much excitement and worrying about the calf is also apt to create fever.

The first symptom of puerperal fever is, the animal does not yield her milk readily; it will come slow, and the quantity is small. The nose or muzzle is dry; the eyes are dim; the ears droop; she hangs her head; moves with difficulty; moans, and lays down, to rise no more. The first symptom generally noticed is the difficulty with which she rises, or inability to get up. The fever soon becomes general, or sympathetic. The sudden transfer of accumulated action, at or near the time of parturition, must cause a great constitutional liability to local inflammation. If an abcess form in the udder it should be speedily punctured, and this may occur before or after parturition; if before, the womb will not be likely to be the seat of inflammation, but the udder; or, a general fever will set in which will hasten labor pains. The great difficulty exists in its not being detected in due time. A cow frequently is ailing, not ruminating as usual; the milk not given freely, and she scarcely able to stand long enough to have it drawn. But in the hurry and bustle of milking she is turned out unnoticed and unattended, when she should be milked from three to five times a day during her illness. A cow that comes to her milk before calving should be milked regularly, and thus fever may be prevented.

Dairymen should be careful and watch their cows for one week before and after calving, and attend to the above directions, then there will be no danger of so sudden a death as frequently occurs.

I attribute the frequency of milk sickness to the plethoric state of the animal before calving, which is always attended with more or less febrile symptoms. The disease occurs more frequently in fat and well kept cows; their systems being more disposed to the ready yielding to the influence that generates the milk. I have always found those patients to have large and well filled udders before parturition. I have never known a poor milker, or one that gave poor milk, die of milk fever. I have never known but two recover after they were unable to rise without help. At this stage of the disease the system becomes so inactive and dormant that medicine fails to produce a change of symptoms, and the febrile symptoms increase until convulsions supervene, which soon terminate in death.

I will not attempt to prescribe at this time, but only insist on a close attention to the symptoms which undoubtedly exist two or three days; as simple fever, for example, which is easily treated by giving cathartics and febrifuges, drawing the milk every three or four hours. Under this plan of treatment, the animal will, in a few days, recover. A cow that does recover from a reabsorption of milk is seldom worth keeping, as she would be liable to have it again the next year. All such cows should be fattened immediately, and disposed of, and thus avoid the risk next year.—Dr. Dadds, Amer. Vet. Journal.

POTATOES, THE BLACK MERCER, OR FOXITE KIDNEY VARIETY,

We have before us a basket of the above named potatoes which have been grown chiefly in Mercer County, N J., for a few years past. This sample was furnished by Mr. Stephen Conover, produce dealer, 197 West Washington market. They were raised by Mr. George H. Sickle, of Middletown, Monmouth County, N. J., upon a sandy loam. Half of the field was planted with the common Mercer at the same time, and the yield was very small, while these produced *twenty-seven* barrels from *two-thirds* of a barrel of seed. Mr. Whitlock, of Raritan, gathered 96 barrels from an acre this year; and last year, in a better season, he gathered 127 barrels from an acre. We have other accounts all showing this variety to be very productive.

This potato has a purplish or blue-black skin, but is white within. We have cooked them a few times as a trial. They are quite good, though we think there are several better table potatoes. They cook mealy and we have found no appearance of "pith" in the center which is a recommendation. The taste is a little strong, though not unpleasant.

We do not know that any one has a monopoly of the seed, and therefore take pleasure in speaking of their apparently superior quality, especially as a producer. The following is an extract from a letter we received in the early part of last year:

To the Editor of American Agriculturist.

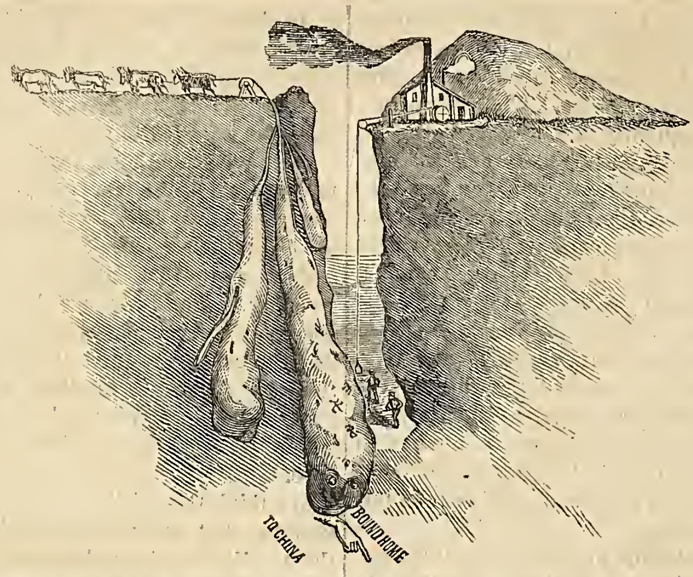
Thy letter of the 17th inst was received, and in answer would state that we are happy to do any thing that would benefit our brother farmers, and we think that in recommending the black Mercer potatoes to their notice through thee, we may benefit all those who are led to give them a fair trial.

We have raised them for the last three or four years, and the last two years almost exclusively, never failing to produce double of the *black* that we can of the white Mercer; and one year (1853) more than three times as many. Last year we had the poorest success we ever had, owing to the excessive drouth, and we planted too early, so that this crop amounted to almost a failure, not producing over fifty bushels per acre; while, before, we have ranged from 125 to 270 per acre.

We think them fully as good as the other varieties, but many are prejudiced against them. We use them altogether, and are not ashamed to ask our friends to partake with us of as *white and mealy* potatoes as any can show. They (the women) say they take rather more cooking than the white Mercers They always grow till frost, yet our experience is, that it will not do to plant before the 10th or 12th of May. We have had them weigh 38 oz., and could pick out forty that would make a bushel But our last year's crop was small, and the potatoes quite inferior to what they have been heretofore. They generally bring us from four to five cents less per bushel, than the white ones are selling for here They do not appear to be affected with the rot like the white ones. Owing to their growing till frost, and continually setting, we think the small ones do not sufficiently mature with any degree of certainty. We do not know of any other information thee would desire, but should be happy to answer any inquiries.

Thine, J. N. & E. R.
Montrose Farm, N. J.

Blood as a Manure.—There is a manufactory in London where animal blood is made into fertilizing mixtures. Bone dust and crushed fossil manures are placed in a long tub, along the central axis of which is the shaft of a revolving agitator—so many casks full of blood are poured in over the bones, and well mixed by the arms upon the working shaft. Sulphuric acid is added to the mixture, which boils and effervesces under the action of the vitriol on the bones and blood, and after thorough commixture for about ten minutes, the liquid mass is allowed to escape through the opened end of the vessel, and it runs in a heap upon an earthen floor, where, as it cools, it hardens and dries. In a day or two this is turned over with the spade and broken small, and is found already dry enough for drilling. This is what is used as turnip manure. Some sixteen or eighteen large vessels full of this manure are poured out in the course of a day, forming a mass of forty or fifty tons of manure. For wheat manure the same materials are used in different proportions, and a larger quantity of blood being used, artificial heat is needed to dry the resulting compound. The turnip manure contains about two or three per cent of nitrogen along with sixteen per cent of soluble phosphate of lime. The wheat manure contains about seven per cent of nitrogen, and the phosphate is reduced to ten per cent.



DIOSCOREA BATATAS—(Chinese Potato.)

HOW ABOUT THAT DIOSCOREA BATATAS?

MR. EDITOR: Can you give me any account of the present prospects of the Chinese Yam or Dioscorea Batatas? I planted twelve "tubers" last Spring, (which cost me $10.) Can it be that being natives of China they have started for home? I certainly have not seen any thing of them on this side of the earth. Your afflicted subscriber,

P. I.

SING SING, New-York.

We cannot answer our correspondent as to *his* Dioscoreas. *We* planted some last June that cost us much less money, and dug two of them on Thanksgiving Day. One was 21 inches long, and the other 24—and it would doubtless have been a good deal longer, but at that depth it struck a stone and "flatted out." Our largest yam was about the diameter of the fore finger. From what *was* said of them last spring, we don't see any use in planting them, for who can be at the necessary expense of digging? Our artist has illustrated *that* matter above.—ED.

WINTER CARE OF POULTRY.

The sharp frosts of December are upon all the tenants of the poultry-yard, if perchance there be such a yard upon the farmer's premises. Too often, poor biddy has no particular spot where she may rest the sole of her foot. Useful as she is acknowledged to be, the sure harbinger of omelets, custards, pies, and cakes, she has no snug territory she can call her own, where dogs and hogs are banished, and chanticleer struts the undisputed lord of her affections. She is left to shift for herself, to roost in the hovel, or stable, or possibly to watch the stars upon an apple tree. The consequence of this neglect is, that she stops laying when the snow comes, and the farmer's visions of high living at Christmas and New-Year's are not always realized. Sensible bird, she has her reserved rights, like other bipeds, and in the last extremity backs down upon them and cuts off the supplies.

She pleads precedent, and finds the world full of argument upon her side, from the days when "bricks without straw," were required, to our own. The fact is, Gentlemen and Ladies of the poultry-yard, it is not in hen nature to bear up under neglect, abuse, and freezing, without making some demonstration of their sentiments. "Hens don't aller's lay," as Mrs. Bunker says.

But they can be made to lay in the winter months, and be kept with more profit then, than in the summer. Eggs always bear a high price in the three months that are before us—two, three, and four cents a piece, by the quantity. A first essential to good laying is a warm, well ventilated, and well kept poultry house. It should be on the south side of a hill, if there be one, half of it under ground, with well glazed windows looking out to the sun. Here in clear days the hens can lie in the sun, and roll in the dirt and ashes, after their summer habits. No snow or wet can reach them. If this retreat adjoins the swill room, and can have a little of its artificial heat as well as its provender, it will be all the better. Hens belong to a warmer climate than ours, and warmth is essential to successful laying. Such a house, too, will be a good hospital for the late hatched broods that will almost always happen, like mistakes in the best regulated families. The sheltered sun beams will

"Revive the languid chick, and warm the blood
"Of cold-nipped weaklings of the latter brood,
"That from the shell just bursting into day.
"Around the yard pursue their venturous way."

These doubtless are not very profitable stock, but when once hatched, humanity pleads for them, and they must be cared for.

But a poultry house will not take care of itself. It needs a little oversight of the owner every day or two, even with the best servants to manage the details. It is very essential that their droppings should be removed, or treated with deodorizers, so that ammonia will not escape from them. This powerful gas is evolved in large quantity from the excrements of well fed fowls, and is, we believe, more frequently the cause of disease among them than anything else. It affects the eyes, and leads to terrible swelling about the head and throat. It affects the lungs, and leads to sudden deaths. Plaster of Paris, muck, charcoal dust &c., are good absorbents, and should be frequently scattered in the roosts. Ashes or lime should never be used.

Now for the feeding. Let it be generous, frequent, and varied. Hens must have some animal food in order to do their best in winter, and also some green food. Butcher's offal, or the refuse of the fish market will be just the thing. Cabbage leaves, or turnips chopped fine and mixed with the meal will answer for the vegetable diet. Boiled potatoes, mixed with meal, and given warm every morning will soon make the combs redden, and the eggs will follow. Broken oyster shells, or old lime plaster should always be kept within reach. They also want a variety of grain, and the more the better. We have used the sweepings of grain stores for years for this purpose, a mixture of wheat, rye, oats, and corn. It has always done well.

Fowls treated in this way will lay eggs abundantly all winter, and will pay a large profit. The only reason why they have so poor a reputation upon some farms is the fact, that they are grossly neglected. Treat the fowls well, and they will show their gratitude in nests heaped high with snowy white eggs.—ED.

TIM BUNKER ON HORSE-RACING.

Our cut illustrating an "Orthodox Agricultural Exhibition in 1857," appears to have touched the right cord. We are glad to learn that it has met with such favor among our orthodox subscribers in Hookertown, and vicinity. We give Mr. Bunker's letter entire.

Hookertown, Nov. 12, 1856.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

I am not much used to writing letters of any kind, much less letters for the papers. But I see you are reporting considerable many of my sayings in your paper, and I thought if you were bent upon having my notions circulated, you might as well have them direct from the fountain-head, as to have them come in a round-about-way. I just want to say that there is nothing come out lately, that has struck the fancy of the Hookertown people like that cut of the horse-race, in the last paper. At first I did not know but you was coming out in favor of these fast colts and "whurra boys" at our fairs, and I begun to think I should have to drop the paper, if that was the case. You see horse-racing is an institution agin which Connecticut people are dead set upon principle, and it is no kind of use to attempt to revive that old engine of the enemy in this enlightened age, even under the cover of an agricultural fair.

We have got a great notion of the County and State Societies, and of the Fairs that come off every fall. They please our vanity somewhat, and are doing a heap of good, in waking folks up to a better kind of farming. All sorts of folks come to them, and the better part of the community especially. It seems as if we had got one thing that we could all be agreed on. There is a considerable split on religion, and politics always stirs up a deal of bad feeling, especially such an exciting election as this we have just had. Now it seems to me that these fairs are just what we want to draw all kinds of people together, and to keep up good neighborhood.

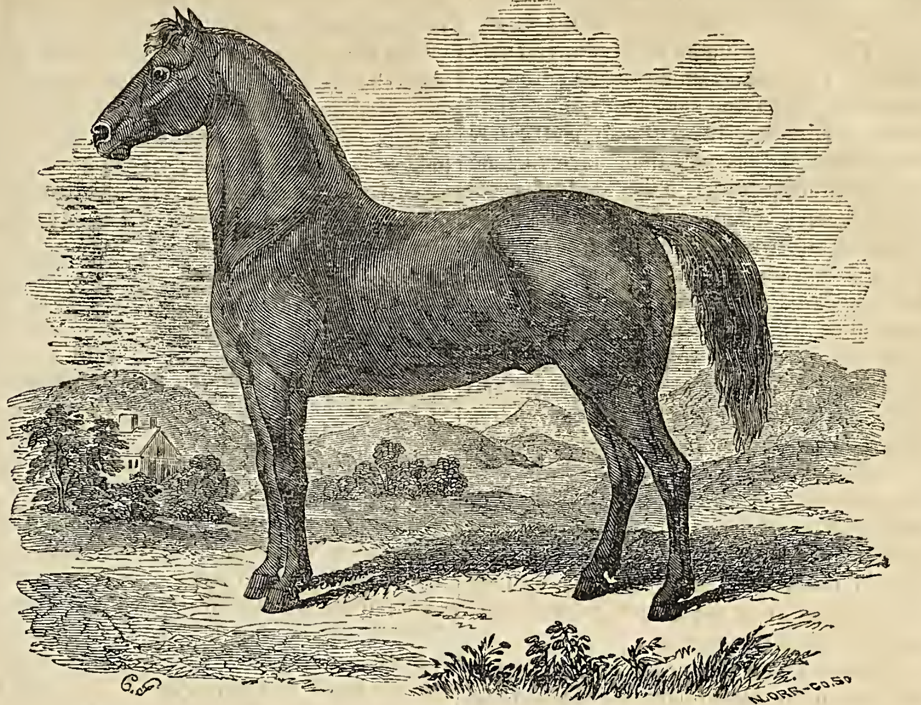
But just as soon as you bring in horse-racing, and make that a part of the fair, you see, a multitude of people wont stand it no how. It does seem as if the devil was always around when folks are trying to start a good enterprize, getting up something to knock it all over. You see, we have put down circuses, theatricals, &c., time and agin, and we dont believe in horse-racing as a moral institution, fix it up any way you will. Deacon Smith you see is a rural improver, goes in for good horses, fine cattle and all that sort of thing. He went down to Boston to attend the horse show, supposing they were going to have a civil kind of time. Guess how mortified he was, when he got into the show and found jockeys, gamblers, and betting men around him, thick as flies in Hookertown in fish time. You see the Deacon will not be caught in such a scrape agin.

Now I dont suppose there is any objection to having a track upon the fair grounds, and to driving horses around on a pretty good jog, but I cant see how it is going to make us breed any better horses to have a regular racing match, and to have all the gamblers and fancy men in the country drawn together to see the sport. It strikes me that gamblers would be made much faster than good horses by such brutal exhibitions.

Just to show you how the thing works, I will tell you about my John. You see the boy has been at work hard all summer, and I thought I would let him go down to Boston, with the Deacon, to see the fine horses. When the boy came home, I found he had been making a bet on Ethan Allen, and was cracking about the horse as raging as an old gamester. You see the boy was young, and his father was not with him. It wont be safe for a man to take his family to the fairs, if they are going to be turned into race courses. Good people will be dead set agin them, and the first thing we shall know, all the pulpits in Connecticut will be blowing away at the fairs for horse racing and gambling. Now, you see, I dont belong to the meeting myself, and am not so good as I ought to be, but I can see the bearing of horse racing on the morals of the community. When a man's boy gets to betting at a fair, you see, it brings the matter straight home, and there is no blinding a man's eyes to the facts in the case. If the ministers come out against this kind of agricultural exhibitions, they will have the right on their side and will be certain to carry the day. It is no kind of use to approve a thing that is not right. So you see I was mighty glad to see that picture in your paper showing up the folly of horse-racing at the fairs. Mrs. Bunker put on her spectacles and looked at it, and wanted to know of John, if that looked any thing like Boston show. John rather blushed, and said "the thing was natural as life." I have had a dozen people in to borrow the paper, and Seth Twigs, Bill Bottom, and Jake Frink want to take it. Inclose three dollars—Send them "A Bakers Dozen."

Yours Against Horse-Racing,

Timothy Bunker Esq.



JUSTIN MORGAN.

Above we present a cut of "The Original Morgan Horse," owned by Justin Morgan, Esq., of Randolph, Vt., about sixty-five years ago. The wide diffusion of this breed, and the high estimation in which it is held, has called forth considerable discussion as to the "original" horse, his pedigree, &c. During a few years past we have had many inquiries on this subject, and often been requested to enter into its discussion. We are therefore glad to announce to those interested, that Messrs. C. M. Saxton & Co., have just issued a very beautiful volume entitled

"Morgan Horses: A Premium Essay on the Origin, History and Characteristics of this remarkable American breed of Horses; tracing the pedigree from the original Justin Morgan, through the most noted of his progeny, down to the present time, &c. By D. C. Linsley, of Middlebury, Vt.

The work is beautifully illustrated with cuts of a large number of horses of this breed, of which the above is a fair sample. For particulars of price, &c., see advertisement.—Ed.

A FARMER'S RAINY DAY RAMBLE,

OR HOW MY NEIGHBOR THOMAS MAKES MONEY AT FARMING—GETS TIME TO READ THE PAPERS, ETC.; AND ABOUT SUNDRY OTHER THINGS.

Professor Judd.—A drizzling rain always puts a damper on the spirits of the idler, and so to cheer up a little, I set out on a visit to neighbor Thomas, who had a reputation of being the snuggest farmer in our parts. I wanted to see what he could find for himself and hands to do, when out-door work was out of the question, for it was a sore puzzle to a novice like me.

Now the best way to observe a farmer's management is to take a tour by the back side of his barn and out-buildings, and if that is all right no fear of the part that fronts the road. And so I did at neighbor Thomas'. Well, here was a pile of rails hauled out the previous winter to dry; there a quantity of posts to be finished when the March winds blow. The waggons were under cover and so of every farming utensil. He had a place for all in a shed, that appeared to be built for the express purpose.

Passing on to the house and enquiring for neighbor Thomas, I found him in a shop adjoining the wood-house, busily engaged sewing a harness. What! neighbor, robbing the harness maker? eh? "No, I rob no man," he replied, "but I mean to be independant of everybody as much as I can. Take a seat on the work bench."

I did as requested, and proceeded to draw out of him sundry items in his experience, an outline of which I give you in his own words as near as I can:

"In the first start, young man, remember the old adage, "a stitch in time saves nine," and often ninety-nine; and the next is, there is no period of life when a farmer, if in health, can say I have nothing to do. I always keep a few awls, a piece of wax, and some shoe thread, and when I discover a part of the harness ripping it is attended to the first leisure, generally a day like this. You see I have a small carpenter's bench, and a small quantity of tools, nails, screws, &c. If a picket or board is loose, my rule is to nail it up soon. In spring, when the snow is melting and mud is the order of the day, I overhaul my waggons and other farming tools, dress out swivel-trees, ax-handles, &c., to be on hand when the old ones break or wear out. In short a farmer with but a small outlay for tools can make them pay for themselves every year. He can hoop his tubs and pails by keeping a quantity of hoop-iron and a few rivets on hand."

On looking around I saw some boxes apparently a foot square and three inches high, covered with millinet on the top. To my question, what they were for, he replied: "Those are my covers to put over melon and cucumber hills soon after they are planted, and a most effectual remedy they are too. I have saved my plants for ten years, while my neighbors often loose theirs by the striped bug, I made these rainy days too."

All this is very good I replied, but I want to know what the *men* have to do in bad weather? "They have enough to do too, you may depend. I always examine the condition of the horses' shoes ,and send them to the shop if they require it, instead of waiting, till they are barefoot and perhaps then have to send them when most busy. They shell the corn so as to keep a quantity ahead to be ready to send to mill when it is wanted. They oil the harness when it needs it, and when all these are cared for, I employ them in the wood-house, either sawing wood or making posts for fence. No, there is no time on the farm for idleness if you have tools and good calculation. If your harness requires a few minutes work,or your ax handle breaks, or a hundred other things on the farm, it is often ten-fold more trouble and delay to take them to be mended, than to go to work and mend them yourself."

But, I observed, I expected farmers took their comfort rainy days, or employed their time in reading the papers.

"Comfort! why, what satisfaction is there, when just in the most busy time some article gives out, small it may be too, and you have to go some miles and lose half a day, while if you were prepared with a few plank or stuff ready made as I have here, it might not delay a quarter of an hour? And as to reading, this very preparation in rainy days and odd times, as we call them, keeps me before hand with my work, and we can every one of us read our papers. Thanks to the progress of the age there are papers adapted to every member of the family, and I subscribe for each. Mother wants a paper adapted to her taste, full of good reading, perhaps containing a well written moral tale. My daughters have their taste, and my boys too. For myself, and boys also, I have one for general news, and two on agriculture—one near home, and one at a distance. I find an agricultural paper almost like a geography, for what are they but a description of the earth."

Yes, I said, but one is a western paper. Their style of farming is different from what it is here, and their soil is unlike ours.

"Would you tell your teacher not to instruct your children about any other parts of the world, but about the United States only? No, indeed. I want to be informed of the mode of agriculture in every corner of the earth."

My friend I found was pretty warm in favor of Agricultural journals, and after giving Judge Buel, and sundry other of you agricultural editors the due meed of praise, I interrupted by asking him if he did not find himself "sold" sometimes by the "great blessings" some great benefactor was disposed to shower on us. His reply was "If I purchase any, it is in very small quantities, so that there will be little lost. My neighbor Williams goes it strong. He has a quantity of the Chinese yam in his garden, and he is sanguine his fortune is made, for he says if he can sell 100 bushels like the price he paid to a celebrated *prince*, *his* fortune is made. But I fear the bubble is burst, and whether his hogs will be paid to root them out I do not know. Some of his waggish neighbors, in vi [illegible]ir enormous growth, advise him to procure a stump [illegible]er, and a yoke of oxen to extract them.'

The clouds having spent, or rather scattered their last drops, I arose to depart, and accepting an invitation to come again and look over his orchard and garden and pass judgment on a fine growth of Chinese sugar cane which he thinks is destined to make him still more independent, I took my leave.

North Hempstead, L. I. S.

THE ARTIFICIAL MANURES TESTED BY CHEMISTRY.

[During the past summer, an extended set of careful analyses of market samples of sundry artificial manures was made by Samuel W. Johnson, now Professor of Analytical Chemistry in Yale College. It was our good fortune to spend some years in company with Prof. Johnson, at the Yale Agricultural school, when under the supervision of its founder the late Prof. John P. Norton, and we then learned to place a high value upon his careful and skillfull experiments. Since that time Prof. J. has passed a couple of years or more with Liebig, and other noted European Chemists, in the study of the Chemistry of Agriculture and he is now in his new and responsible station doing good service to the cause of Agricultural improvement. A full account of the recent examinations of manures above alluded to was published in the Homestead. The first number we reproduced in the July Agriculturist. As the whole would occupy to much space, and as there were many details not interesting to the general reader, we requested Prof. Johnson to furnish a summary of the reports, which is given below.

These investigations are published in the same spirit that they were made, viz.: not to depreciate one man's manufacture or praise another, but simply to furnish the answer given by a careful, thorough and impartial application of Chemical Analyses. For ourselves we must confess that we place less reliance than formerly upon any results to be derived from a knowledge of the mere chemical constitution of a soil. We look more to its *mechanical* condition, its coarseness and fineness, freedom from water &c. Our views on this subject are refered to in our October number under "Why does clay benefit sandy soil." Still we believe that chemistry is already competent to show us somewhat of the value of *fertilizers*—it will at least inform us whether a fertilizer contains in its composition what it is said to contain, and in this respect the following statements are highly important.

That the value of the fertilizers as given below, if estimated according to the amount of ammonia and soluble phosphoric acid, is correct, there can be no doubt, and the manufacturers would not be likely to challenge new analyses. Whether any additional value, due to carbonaceous matter in any of the fertilizers is to be allowed to them, it remains for the manufacturers themselves to show.—Ed.]

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

I comply cheerfully with your request to furnish for the *Agriculturist*, a condense statement of the results of my examinations of commercial fertilizers. Your readers have already been made acquainted with the general value of this investigation from my first article on the subject, in your July number. In that paper I drew attention to the increasing business in high-priced fertilizers, and to the certainty that among them, there are many nearly or utterly worthless compounds, calculated under specious names to cheat the farmer out of the trouble and money spent in their use. I alluded to the rapidly increasing dangers to which farmers are thus exposed, and showed that the only secure protection against these frauds, must be furnished by chemical analyses. I further showed that the certificates of the dealers, though endorsed by names of high standing in the commercial world, can not be depended on, and finally, promised to publish my own analyses, or those made under my direction, as a guide and warning. This I have done. In the five articles furnished by me to the Homestead on this subject, are given the results of *thirty-four* analyses made in this Laboratory, and executed on *three Guanos*, *two Poudrettes*, one of them called Ta Feu, *eight Superphosphates of Lime*, and *two fish manures*. In these analyses, I have been ably assisted by Messrs. Seely, Twining, Rockwell, Watson, and Willson.

In order to avoid the possibility of any mistake, in every instance *duplicate* analyses were made.

In the introductory article, in answer to the question—"*What substances are to be regarded as important in costly manures?*" I have endeavored to make evident that but two bodies are to be thus considered, viz.: AMMONIA and PHOSPHORIC ACID.

The distinction between *commercial* and *manurial* value must be carefully kept in mind. Scientifically considered, all the dozen substances found in plants, are equally important. Economically considered however, those matters are most important, which from their scarcity, or from their being in great commercial demand, are most costly. In your July number, and in my fourth article in the Homestead (No. 43,) are adduced at length the reasons which have led me to confine the value of a *high-priced* manure to these two ingredients, and to adopt for them the following scale of prices.

Ammonia........................	16	cents	per lb.
Insoluble phosphoric acid.........	2	"	"
Soluble.......	5	"	"

The commercial value of a manure which sells as high as one cent per pound, may be safely estimated by multiplying the number of pounds of ammonia and phosphoric acid in a ton, by the above prices. These two ingredients are the only ones, excepting potash, which have a commercial value as high as one cent per pound. They are the only ones which the farmer can not generally buy at even less than that price. The other elements of manures are usually so abundant in the soil that, with judicious rotations, an artificial supply is unnecessary.

With regard to manures which are sold at less than one cent per pound, the same rule commonly holds good; because the great bulk of such manures usually consists o vegetable matter, lime, gypsum, sand, coal-dust &c.

In estimating the value of the first class of manures i. e., those costing one cent per pound, the analysis, on which the valuation rests, is sufficient, if it reveal how much ammonia and phosphoric acid be present, and prove that but little potash exists in the sample. The analyses of the second class of manures—those costing less than one cent per pound, must be more full, because the less the price of the manure, the greater is the relative value of the cheaper ingredients.

GUANOS.—A specimen of *No.* 1 *Peruvian Guano*, newly received from the Government Agent, New-York City, contained 15 per cent ammonia, and 14¾ per cent phosphoric acid. As a specimen of the calculation of the value of a manure, the following example may serve. The worth of 100 lbs., is found by multiplying the percentages of ammonia and phosphoric acid, by the values of those ingredients respectively; thus 15 pounds ammonia at 16 cents is $2.40 : 14¾ pounds phosphoric acid at 2 cents is 30 cents, adding the two gives $2.70 as the value of 100 pounds and 20 times this is $54, the calculated value of a ton. The dealer's price is, or was, $54 to $56 per ton.

This sample of guano was an excellent one, but contained about 2½ per cent less of ammonia than the average of the *best* Peruvian Guanos. It ought to be well known that guano is very liable to deterioration by exposure to air and moisture. It may then lose one-quarter of all its ammonia during a single winter. Last spring an article was extensively advertised under the name of *Pacific Ocean Guano*, and was represented "to be nearly if not quite equal to Peruvian Guano." This manure had various ill omens attending it. In the first place it hailed from that small part of our planet called "the Pacific Ocean." So indefinite a name seemed applied to cover up something. Again, it was heralded by an analysis, according to which it contained

Phosphate of Lime	42.48
Carbonate of Lime	2.26
Urate of Amnonia Phosphate of Ammonia Carbonate of Ammonia &c.	20.54
Chloride of Sodium Chloride of Potassium Sulphate of Soda &c.	14.46
Undecomposed Organic Matter, Feathers, &c.	3.26
Silicious Matter	5.10
Water and Loss	12.00
	100.00

Such an analysis is also obviously intended to cover up something. The unchemical reader might very easily get the impression that this Guano yielded 20.54 per cent of ammonia. But in fact we have no information as to the amount of ammonia, and for the purpose of estimating this most valuable ingredient of a Guano, the analysis is worthless. The analyses of Twining and myself, made on a sample sent by the importers to a Hartford firm, gave 2.7 per cent ammonia, and 26. per cent phosphoric acid. The calculated value was therefore $19.20 per ton; the advertised price was $50.

The other Guano examined was called *Ichaboe Guano.* Its largest ingredient was *sand*, of which it contained 65 per cent! Besides, it contained 3 per cent of ammonia and 7½ per cent of phosphoric acid. Its calculated value was $12.20 per ton. The selling price was $40.

Ta Feu.—This fertilizer is manufactured in New-York City, and is stated in the advertisement to consist of three-fourths night soil and one-fourth Peruvian Guano. From what we know of the extraordinary fertilizing power of human excreta, we should be ready to expect that this mixture would rank foremost among manures. The analysis however, shows that it contains 50 per cent of sand, coal dust and other insoluble and worthless matter! But 3 per cent of ammonia, and 5 per cent of phosphoric acid are present! Its calculated value is $11.60. Assuming one-fourth of it to be good Peruvian Guano, as stated in the advertisement, there is no ammonia, and but 1.6 per cent of phosphoric acid in it, beyond what the added Guano would alone contain. The night soil then does not contribute enough to its value to pay for mixing the two together, and materially diminishes that value by increasing the cost of transportation.

What is the reason of this? In my former article on this question it was made evident that the night-soil of cities as usually collected, is comparatively worthless. This is due chiefly to the facts that it has undergone fermentation whereby its ammonia almost completely escapes in a short time; it is exposed to rains and waste water from the water works which wash out its valuable matters, and finally, it is mixed with all manner of refuse, especially with coal-ashes. In fact, it can not be expected that city night soil will form a concentrated fertilizer, unless all these sources of deterioration be avoided.

The lower-priced Poudrette of the Lodi Co., N. Y., I have not analysed, and can not speak of its value.

The *Poudrette* of the so-called *Liebig Manufacturing Co.*, of East Hartford, Conn., was analysed, but as it is a cheap manure being furnished at $1.50 per bbl., and having but a local sale, I need only say of it, that it has a manurial value three times greater than the best horse manure, and its fineness and uniformity of texture recommend it, especially for garden use.

SUPERPHOSPHATES.—No artificial fertilizer has been so extensively manufactured of late years as the so-called *Superphosphate of Lime.* The characteristic ingredient of this fertilizer when genuine, is phosphoric acid existing in a form that is readily soluble in water. A good superphosphate ought reasonably to be expected to contain 10 per cent of insoluble phosphoric acid, and if it be pretended to have any ammonia in its composition—to be improved nitrogenized, or ammoniated—it should yield 3 per cent of that substance.

In England, Superphosphates of this quality have been made and sold at $30 per ton of 2,000 pounds. *None of the Superphosphates analysed by me the past summer have come up to this standard.*

DeBurg's No. 1 *Ammoniated Superphosphate*, gave 25½ per cent of phosphoric acid, of which 2½ per cent was soluble. It contained 3½ per cent of ammonia. Calculated value $25.00. Were the percentage of soluble phosphoric acid raised to 10 per cent, the calculated value would be $30 per ton.

Of *Coe's Improved Superphosphate*, manufactured at Middletown, Conn., *four* different samples were analyzed. They showed a remarkable uniformity of composition, and were scarcely inferior to De Burg's. Calculated value $24.

The other Superphosphates turned out very poorly. One contained 10¼ per cent of phosphoric acid, one per cent of which was soluble in water. Its ammonia was 3¾ per cent and its calculated value $16 50 per ton. Another brand yielded 3½ per cent of soluble and 4 per cent of insoluble phosphoric acid, and 2¼ per cent of ammonia. Its value is accordingly calculated at $16.20 per ton. Last and least, must be mentioned a N. Y. specimen containing but 5½ per cent of phosphoric acid, *none of which was soluble*, and ⅓ per cent of ammonia. Its calculated value was $41 per ton *less* than the sale price!

The *Fish Guano* and the *Fish Compost* of the Narragansett Co., R. I., were also analysed. Of the former it only need be remarked that it contains 4.1 per cent of ammonia and 10 per cent of phosphoric acid. Its calculated value is $17 per ton. There is no practical difficulty in making a manure from fish at least nearly equal to the best Pernvian Guano. In fact this has been done, as is mentioned in my article on fish manure. But it would appear that there is room for new efforts in this direction, and there is not the smallest doubt that with a proper combination of capital and scientific skill, a business of this kind can be founded, that will prove highly remunerative to the manufacturer and satisfactory to farmers.

The *Fish Compost* was found to contain 53 per cent of sand and insoluble matter, and one per cent each of ammonia and phosphoric acid. It is not more valuable than good horse dung!

Some other manures are under investigation and the results will be made public in due time.

There is satisfactory evidence that the rapidly increasing class of farmers who use concentrated fertilizers, have a reasonable confidence in the ability of chemical analysis to protect them from deception. This demonstrates a high appreciation of Agricultural science.

SAMUEL W. JOHNSON.

YALE ANALYTICAL LABORATORY,
NEW-HAVEN, CT. Nov. 5, 1856.

A certain lawyer had his portrait taken in his favorite attitude, standing with his hands in his pockets. His friends and clients all went to see it, and everybody exclaimed

"Oh! how like the original. It's the very picture of him"

"Tain't like," said an old farmer.

"Just show us where it's not like him," said they.

"Tain't, no 'tain't," replied the farmer; "don't you see he's got his hands in his own pockets? 'Twould be as like again, if he had his hands in somebody else's pockets."

Orchard, Garden, Lawn, &c.

FIELD MICE—THEIR RAVAGES—IS THERE A REMEDY?

In our last paper we mentioned some calamitous depredations of the field mice the past season, and touched on some remedies as preventives against their future mischiefs. Any number of preventives have appeared in the agricultural papers of past years, but on examination, it will be found that had they been applied, the experience of the past year would have shown them utterly worthless. The full habits of the field mouse have not been understood by our farmers until the current year. It has been supposed that the creature simply built a nest on the surface of the ground in a bed of dry grass, straw, or leaves, or in the roots of stumps, under boards, timber or wood, and that from these they run out under the snow, or otherwise, and simply gnawed the bark of the trees in their vicinity. Were these the circle of their habits, and the extent of their mischief, the remedies that have been so flippantly suggested in the papers, and so widely copied, and supposed to be effectual, would have answered all purposes. Such, however, is unfortunately not the fact. We had, ourself, previous to the present year entertained the popular notion of the habits and operations of the field-mouse. But the last nine months experience has taught us better.

To start with, the mouse is an inveterate *digger* in any kind of dry soil short of rock itself, and in seamy rock, whether under, or above ground, they burrow, intuitively. Of course, they live and hold high holiday in all sorts of brush-heaps, stacks of hay, grain, or poor straw. These suit them best; but for the lack thereof, they dive into all sorts of banks, and mounds of light dry earth; they burrow under the roots of thrifty, *living* trees, particularly when they are cultivated. Hence, we have seen that they have eaten off the roots of young trees, and these have fallen out of the ground in the spring like a sharpened beanpole. During the past winter they have worked through, and up, and down snow drifts where they have worked round the trees, and beginning a foot or two above the ground, barked the trunks up to the crotch, and out along the branches. In other cases they have cut right through the earth that was heaped round the trunks at the root. In short, they have attacked the trees and shrubbery in all manner of ways *under* the snow, without regard to whether the aforesaid snow was packed, or loose. Another fact we have learned. Mice will travel long distances under the snow,—miles in all probability. We knew a field of about fifty acres last year, on the rear of which was a wood of perhaps twenty acres. The open ground was covered with a heavy growth of grass, a foot high or more, which had been reserved for winter sheep pasture, when the ground was bare. About Christmas a heavy layer of snow fell upon it and remained all winter, and when the snow went off in the spring the whole field was sheared as close as a newly clipped sheep, the grass all chipped up in fragments on the ground, or made into thousands of nests which lay like mole-hills all about, and full of young mice; the ground was full of subterraneous burrows also, while the surface of the field was threaded like a piece of gause with the runways and tracks of the vermin. Yet but few mice were seen in that field before the snow fell! Now, we would like to know what foresight or nostrum is to work a preventive of a curse like this, coming as suddenly upon us as the lice, or locusts of Egypt? "Apply the tar and sulphur, and whitewash, and stamp the snow, and poison the brutes," say the Doctors. True, but tar, and other pungent applications to the bark are quite as apt to kill the trees, as the ravages of the mice, while poisoning the creatures is like clearing out flies from a dead carcase in August with *nux-vomica;* and how much headway would even an army of men make in tramping down snow pretty much every other day for a month or two of driving, drifting storms like last winter, with the mercury below zero?

We are as much disposed to publish cures and preventives to all evils that can affect any of our interests as any one, but the pests of the last year are so extraordinary that no remedy or preventive on a large scale can reach them. Even the immediate grounds of the dwelling house, and the continual passing through them of its inmates meant nothing last winter. We saw trees six or eight inches diameter, standing within ten feet of the house, that were girdled up to the crotch, and currants, gooseberries, rose bushes, and every other sort of shrub, amounting in all to thirty or forty varieties, including several bunches of *wormwood,* cut down by the mice. Cats, terrier dogs, although they caught thousands previous to the falling of the snow, made no impression on many of the grounds invaded by them last winter.

But like all other evils with which the land is occasionally afflicted, this will pass away. The usual fall rains if they come, will fill the mouse-holes with water. Millions of mice will thus be drowned. The work is already begun. The late autumnal, or early winter freezing of the water, if the ground is bare, will finish the survivors who have fled, and we shall be again rid of them, and possibly a generation of years will pass before we shall again be so troubled. We may notice another prevalent notion about mice, which is, that plowed ground is not affected by them. Last winter was an exception. They were as plenty in plowed land where stubble, potato tops, or anything could be found for them to nest in, as in grass land. It was no exception to their depredations, and many wheat fields were injured by them, and fruit trees destroyed, and during the past summer thousands of acres of small grain scattered about, in divers fields, were badly cut up by them.

We record these facts as extraordinary, and as putting at defiance all the nostrums in the use of which we are prone to indulge, as "effectual remedies" against occasional curses which no human foresight is able to successfully combat.—Ed.

SMALL GARDENS.

WHAT ONE OF THEM PRODUCED.

With all the progress we have made in horticulture, the last five years, there are still persons, who believe that a garden is not profitable. They claim, if they have a garden, that every bushel of potatoes grown in it costs them one fifty per bushel, when they can buy in the market for half that price; and every ear of corn, squash, and cabbage tastes strong of the silver. If we get at the facts in the case, we generally find that they keep no account current with their gardens, and only know that they have paid out seventy-five or a hundred dollars for labor and manure, and have only a confused recollection of a few dishes of succotash, a few dozen egg plants, and strawberries and cream last June.

We claim that this is an unfair way of judging, and that no man has a right to impeach the fruitfulness of the soil in this way, until he keeps strict account of expenses and products, and convicts the soil of ingratitude by its own testimony. We are willing that it should stand, or fall by its own deeds, when fairly treated. If with labor it does not bring in ample returns, let it be written down a bankrupt.

We induced one of our neighbors to keep an account of the products of his garden during the past season. It is a place hired for a long series of years, unblest with a fruit tree or shrub of any kind. Not even a currant bush produces its annual crop of cobwebs and wormy berries upon the premises. Probably the garden has not had a hundred dollars worth of manure laid out upon it, in the last half century. Indeed there was not much but the soil there. Nothing can be credited to past liberal treatment. It was not more than half manured the present year, with Peruvian guano, and the contents of a pig stye. On the credit side we have for green corn sold $40, potatoes, $15, peas, $12, cabbage, $10, onions, $5, beans, $7, sage, $2, corn fodder, $2, sundry small items, $12, making $105, as the amount of vegetables sold. No account was kept of the amount of vegetables consumed in the family.

The labor was all performed by the man himself, without interfering with the business upon which he relies for a livelihood. The amount consumed in the family was at least equal in value to the money paid out for the manure, making the amount of vegetables sold, the reward of a few days of labor that would otherwise have been lost. This garden was in a village, and has the advantage of a good market. The result shows that the soil is ready to honor any drafts that may be made upon it. Many villagers are quite as well situated for making gardening pay, and if they cultivated fruits instead of vegetables, it would be still more profitable.—Ed.

The charm of good house keeping is in the order, economy, and taste displayed in attention to little things, and these little things have a wonderful influence.

KEEPING SALSIFY.

This root, called also Vegetable Oyster, ought to be better known. When properly cooked, .there are few vegetables more delicious. It is very seldom seen in our markets, and not even known by one in a thousand. In Europe, however, and especially in France, it is esteemed a luxury; and so we regard it. It is as easily grown as the carrot; and if we had to choose between the carrot and the salsify, we should be content with the latter. Even those who do grow it, seem to know little about cooking it, and still less about keeping it during the Winter, when it is chiefly in season. It is so hardy that it will keep in the ground without covering; but it will begin to grow in the Spring with the first warm weather, and soon becomes unfit for the table. The roots will keep well as follows: Put three or four inches of light mold, or sand, in the bottom of a barrel; then a layer of the roots; next a layer of mold, and so on till the barrel is filled. It may then be placed in a cool room or cellar, and the roots used as they may be wanted.—Ed.

KEEPING WINTER PEARS.

Much has been written as to the best method of keeping and ripening fall and winter pears, and much more will have to be written before the problem receives a satisfactory solution. We have had theories *ad libitum*, and learned nonsense *ad nauseam*. Plain practical men have been bewildered by these discordant and discrepant views. Most of the expensive structures recommended as fruit houses, are little else than philosophical toys on a large scale. We have never yet seen one that answered the purpose as well as a cool dry cellar. The subject has lately taken a new direction. Mr. Hovey states that he has tried the experiment of keeping his winter pears as he keeps his apples—in barrels in the cellar—and succeeded well. We note this with satisfaction, because it accords with our own experience latterly. We ripen our fall pears, in the tool house. The fruit is placed in tin boxes with lids, (wooden ones will do as well where there are no rats and mice with pomological tastes,) and the process of ripening goes on satisfactorily. None but sound specimens, of course, are put in, and these are handled as carefully as eggs. Winter pears will generally "sweat" after the boxes have been filled a few days; they should be taken out and wiped dry. When the weather becomes cold, the boxes are removed to a cool dry cellar. Specimens of some late varieties, that do not ripen kindly, from time to time are placed in a dark closet, opening into a warm room, and usually mature well. We are convinced that pears will ripen better in the dark than in the light, and hence prefer a closet or drawer to an open room. It will be perceived that this process agrees mainly with Mr. Hovey's; the pears in both cases are kept in mass, and placed in the cellar. We have tried spreading out the fruit, and also wrapping it in cotton, &c.; but it generally shrivels badly and loses flavor. The above plan is susceptible of modification and improvement; most of our readers probably have the means of giving it a trial. We hope they will do so, and report the results; for we shall be glad to learn that the trouble and expense of ripening winter pears have been greatly overestimated. Let us have the facts, *real* facts, and perhaps we shall afterwards be able to find some theory to suit them.—[Ed.

EXTRAVAGANT PRICE OF FRUIT.!

Apples and pears are retailed in this city at enormous prices, considering the case with which they can be raised. On Broadway at the fruit stores, delicious Sicily and West India oranges can be purchased much lower than apples and pears, grown almost within sight of New-York! Good apples sell readily at 4 and 6 cents each, and pears range from 3 to 25 cents apiece! This ought not to be.—N. Y. Evangelist.

Yes; and last spring the best of Golden Russet apples, Newtown Pippins, and Spitzerbgs, were selling in Fulton Market for two dollars a barrel, and peddling out of baskets in Broadway for a cent apiece! The fruit-dealers, and the farmers who produced those delicious apples, then thought as the Evangelist now thinks, "that ought not to be." The solution of both facts is, that last year was one of the most abundant of our fruit years, and this one of the most deficient—a feast and a famine, in the fruit line. Thousands of bushels of the choicest winter apples in Western New-York were fed out to the hogs and cattle last *spring*, for want of their usual market, while this *fall* many of our large orchardists have not had apples enough to make their Thanksgiving pies. Another year will probably bring apples to their usual price.

As to pears and the prices they bring, the finer varieties are a capricious fruit always. There is no fruit *tree* we cultivate which is liable to so many casualities of blight, mildew, insects and atmospheric influences, as the pear, and the most fatal of them thus far beyond the reach of human ingenuity, skill, or prevention. A *furor* has for the past few years been got up by the Pomologists on the value of the quince stock for pear growing; but this, like many other things, has proved a failure. Except for a few varieties, and then only for the most elaborate *garden* culture, *choice* pears always have been a scarce and dear fruit, everywhere, and so we opine they will continue to be, in market particularly. Still, every one who cultivates a garden should *strive* to grow his own pears. Our valuable contributor, Dr. L. E. B., takes a different view of the certainty of the pear crop. We hope he may be right and we wrong. Our *experiences* differ. He makes a business of pear-growing, and succeeds. We shall be glad to learn the art of growing pears without disheartening failures, and we hope many of our readers will do the same. Let no one omit to read his chapters on pears.

P. S.—A reliable correspondent just informs us that on November 24th, he saw 50 dozen Vicar of Winkfield Pears, *wholesaled* to a fruit dealer in Boston, for $200!—[Ed.

THE FUCHSIA.

In our Calendar we have directed Fuchsias (Ladies' Ear Drops,) to be pruned, repotted, and cuttings to be put down. This, we know, is not consistent with the directions universally given viz.: to place them on the dry shelf or under the stage till about February; but it accords with our own practice. Our aim is to make the house as gay and cheerful as possible during the winter, and we have most of our Fuchsias in full bloom by February, and not a few of them a month sooner; and we experience no difficulty in doing it. At this time (Nov. 22) our young plants are in rapid growth· Our plan is briefly as follows:

The latter part of June begin to dry the plants off, and keep them back till September, when begin to prune in and repot. Shake off all the earth that will come away freely, and pot in a compost made of equal parts of clean old manure, loam, and leaf mold; but care must be taken not to let the plants suffer for water. The pots must be well drained. Place the plants in the house, water regularly, (once a week with a solution of guano,) and they will soon break into a strong growth. When a couple of inches long, select the most vigorous shoots for cuttings, which will soon root in sand under a glass. As soon as rooted, pot off in a compost made of rotted sod, loam, leaf mold, and old manure. If large specimen plants are wanted, shift often and give plenty of pot room. If medium-sized plants and early bloom be desired, place them in the warmest part of the house, near the glass; shift regularly up to pots six inches in diameter, and there stop; and they will soon become pot-bound and break into flower. At each shift, however, allow the pots to become well filled with roots. If plants are wanted for the border in summer, cuttings may be put down in March.

In our estimation, there are few, if any, plants more lovely than the Fuchsia, and we are not satisfied that it should lie under the stage in unsightly nakedness, when it might be cheering us, clothed in all its native beauty; and this, too, at a season of the year when the green-house and conservatory do not present their gayest aspect. In conclusion, we give a list of a dozen of the best varieties:

Dark colored flowers: Prince Albert, Omar Pacha, Banks's Glory, Aspasia, Clapton Hero, Nonsuch.

Light colored flowers: England's Glory, Duchess of Lancaster, Jeanne d'Arc, Lady Franklin, Prince Arthur, Empress.

Of those with a white corolla, (a new and interesting class,) Eugenia and Victoria are the best we have grown.—[Ed.

MICE PREVENTATIVES.

We have offered some thoughts on this subject, on another page. From several communications, we extract the following:

Mr. Wm. Rouse, of Stone Mills, N. Y., recommends pouring water into the holes where they are actually dug, doing this on a cold day at the beginning of Winter. He thinks there is little danger of mice in orchards, where the ground is well cultivated and the fence corners are kept free from standing grass and weeds, and recommends wire fences around orchards. The water will injure the roots if freezing takes place immediately.

M. H. W., recommends putting heaps of straw in several places around the orchard, to allure the mice, and depositing under each of these some corn soaked in a solution of strychnine dissolved in water. Those who use strychnine in any manner, should be very careful with it, and get full particulars from the druggist of whom they buy it.

Others suggest "ratsbane" (arsenic); putting coal cinders around the roots; &c.

NEW PLANTS.

We recently saw at Mr. Cranstoun's, Hoboken, some very choice seedlings. He has given considerable attention to hybridizing, and has met with a good measure of success. The following are noteworthy:

A hybrid between *Begonia fuchsoides* and *Begonia fuchsoides alba;* a strong growing plant, with dark, glossy green foliage, and very large trusses of beautiful rose-colored flowers. This constitutes quite a distinct variety, and may be regarded as a valuable acquisition. Plants of this hybrid will probably be for sale, and they are worthy of a wide dissemination.

We also saw a number of hybrids between *Begonia manicata* and *Begonia incarnata*, two or three of which pleased us very much; they have the habit and foliage of *manicata*, with flowers in the style of *incarnata*. They are very desirable plants, and we hope will be sent out.

Mr. C., has also a hybrid between *Abutilon venosum* and *Abutilon striatum;* a very great improvement upon the former, being much finer in both foliage and flower. He has also several seedling camellias, and a number of seedling Azalias, some of which look very promising. Altogether, Mr. Cranstoun is doing a good work.

Mr. Geo. C. Thorburn, has originated quite a novelty in the way of a Verbena, which promises to become a great favorite. It is in the pulchella style, fine foliage, with a creeping but compact habit. The flowers are rose color, the petals uniformly margined with white. A clump of it in Mr. Thorburn's garden is a lovely sight. It will make a charming bedding plant. It will no doubt be offered for sale. We also saw some very fine newly imported Fuchsias and Verbenas; but, for the present, at least, we only purpose noticing the *natives*.

At Mr. Graef's, in Brooklyn, some few weeks since, we carefully examined a collection of several hundred seedling Delphiniums or Larkspurs. Having marked the best, we singled out from these some three or four double ones, which for form, color, and symmetry, surpassed anything we have yet seen in the way of a Delphinium. We suggested names for these last, and left with an urgent recommendation that Mr. Graef should propagate them for sale; but have some misgivings as to whether our recommendation will be heeded.

Hereafter we expect to notice new plants as they appear, and will be thankful for any information that may be of interest to the general reader, or the amateurs.

The above notice accomplishes at least one extrinsic end, viz.: it furnishes a sufficient reply to the oft repeated sneer, "Who ever heard of a good *seedlings* raised near New-York?"—Ed.

CHAPTERS ON PEAR CULTURE—NO. II.

BY DR. L. E. B., NEW JERSEY.

Having to the best of my abilities disposed of the question about *Dwarf Pears*, I now take up the other questions proposed.

In answer to your third question, there are various conditions which, in my opinion, constitute excellence for general cultivation, such as the following:

1st. Hardiness and vigor of the tree. A tree can be vigorous for a season, and yet not be hardy; that is, able to resist sudden changes, or extremes of heat, cold, drought, or moisture. Hardiness should go together with natural vigor and thriftiness.

2d. Shape of the tree. The form approaching nearest to the pyramidal is generally the best. For orchard trees this is not a requisite; but the limbs must have a natural tendency to set well, without straggling or bending dispositions.

3d. The tree must be adapted to most kinds of soils in which a pear tree *can* grow.

4th. The fruit ought to be large enough, and handsome or of good appearance.

5th. The variety must be a good and constant bearer under good treatment.

6th. The fruit must stick to the branches fairly, so that the least wind does not bring the greater part of the crop to the ground, (as is the case with the Columbia. Soldat La boreur, &c.

7th. It must ripen well, that is *slowly* and *surely*.

8th. It should be at least of *good* quality, if not *very* good or best, with the exception of cooking pears.

9th. It is all the better if the blossoms are developed late. The late blossoming varieties, either among pears, apples, or any other fruit, escape the spring frosts, and are the surest.

10th. It must succeed both on the pear and on the quince stock. If naturally a good and early bearer the quince stock can be dispensed with.

The following combine most of the above qualities, and stand first upon the list: Belle Lucrative, Louise Bonne, Duchesse d'Angouleme, Buffum, Urbaniste, Vicar of Winkfield, Bartlett on pear stock, and Beurre Langelier

Your next two questions are: "Are quince stocks raised in this country; and is it worth while to try to grow them here?"

I have seen hundreds of thousands raised from seed in the Rochester nurseries, and I can safely predict that within a few years we shall not be dependent upon the old country for either quince or pear stocks. I entertain not the least doubt that we can raise them as profitably as in Europe with proper care and attention, provided, as I stated in my first article, that we only use the seed of the wildest pears, and that we select for the quince the appropriated soil, mucky, rather sandy, and comparatively wet.

The sixth question refers to the length of time required from *seed*, or from *budding*, to the fruiting of the stock?

Two things are to be considered in reply to this question: 1st. The fitness of the variety to either pear or quince stock; 2d. and its bearing propensities on the one or on the other. With proper cultivation, the young pear seedlings can mostly be budded the second year, and certainly *all* of them the third year. The genuine stocks or cuttings can be budded the following summer. Such varieties as the Bartlett, Duchesse d'Angouleme, White Doyenne, &c., often go to bearing from the third to the fifth year from the bud on pear stock; but for ordinary varieties, not so prolific, and especially if we want a good lasting tree, by trimming and keeping all the leaves in good proportion to the stock, from six to eight years are required. On the quince stock, prolific varieties, under very skilful cultivation, yield fruit the second year from the bud. But it is more in our interest not to allow the tree to bear before it has attained sufficient strength.

Your seventh question was:

"Should any one wishing only a few trees for home use, get dwarfs or standards, or both?"

If the soil is rich and deep, and consequently fitted for *both*, I should prefer to have a few standards, say one third of prolific varieties, to put on the outside or most exposed and neglected portion of the garden or premises. Indeed we hardly can wholly dispense with the pear stock, as there are many varieties that will not do well, nor even at all on the quince, unless double worked, that is grafted or budded upon a variety which has already been budded upon the quince, and is suited to it. Such are the Seckel, Doyenne Boussock, Washington, even the Bartlett, and many others.

In regard to your inquiry, whether, "on account of the numerous failures among ordinary cultivators the pear crop is not to be considered as a very uncertain one?" I shall only repeat what I have already stated: that precious flowers, luscious fruits, and perfect vegetables, require more care, more skill, and more attention, than is commonly bestowed upon them. With one half of the care taken, say, for instance, to obtain grapes under glass, or cameleias in pots; with proper trimming, mulching, and sound cultivation, nothing seems to me more sure than a *pear crop.* I have many pear trees which have never failed to give fine crops since they were planted, five years ago. Certain it is that a great many of the planted fruit trees are lost the first, or, at least, the second and third year after their removal from the nurseries to gardens and orchards. I do not think I am far above a fair estimation, if I state that one third of the pear and apple trees taken from the nurseries are destroyed or lost in a few years after their setting out or removal. Neglect, ill-weeds, insects, cattle, worms and grubs, are the everlasting causes; and fair cultivation only, can prevent such a waste of property. A tree worth planting is always worth caring for.

"Will a pear orchard pay for market purposes?" A fine pear orchard does not really require more cultivation than a corn field—it seldom gets as much—and I am confident it will give more profitable results. Besides, at least one-third of the ground may be used for potatoes, carrots, cabbages or other crops. Dr. Underhill once informed me that when he commenced cultivating grapes the fruit sold for six and eight cents per pound in New-York, while now, with an immense increase of vineyards, his grapes sell for 15 to 18 cents per pound. The reason is obvious—they have become an article of general diet, and when every family wants a fruit it will pay. In and around Paris, pear trees are cultivated to an immense extent, and yet in that city good pears always sell for from ten to thirty cents each. I paid in Paris one dollar apiece for select specimens. Pears will still remain for a long time an aristocratic fruit in Europe.

You ask "what soils and locations are most promising for pears?" The pear will grow on almost all soils and locations, excepting bare sands, swamps, shallow vegetable soil on rocks, and perhaps the too much exposed summits of mountains, if proper attention be paid to the varieties suited to these different soils and conditions. The neighborhood of the sea is no objection. The best soil is a naturally or artificially drained sandy loam. By *natural* draining, I understand, breaking through the compact substratas underlaying the vegetable soil, till a more permeable subsoil is reached. *Artificial* draining must never be less than 2½ feet deep for the quince, and at least 3 feet for the pear stock.

In reply to another of your questions, I will state that the list of varieties in my first article seems to be the best for the sea-board, north, middle, and south. In Georgia, they have just as fair specimens of Bartletts, Belle Lucrative, Seckle, and Duchesse d'Angouléme, &c., as they have in New Hampshire and Ohio. My personal observation, experience and correspondence, have satisfied me that the soil, the cultivation, and the selection of proper localities, have more to do with the success of the pear crop; than latitudes and longitudes. Of course the far north cannot expect the same number of good varieties as we can in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. But the south, or south-west, can bring to perfection such varieties as generally prove inferior in Massachusets and New-York. I have tasted in Cincinnati, the old Bezi de la Motte, in full perfection, and in Georgia, the Belle Lucrative, better if possible, and a great deal larger than it is here.

The best time for setting out trees in different localities? A good dry fall, with protection on the foot of the tree for winter, say mulching, brush, stones or coarse stable manure; or, the early spring, when the soil has been prepared the year before, and is, of course, in good condition. The fall affords more leisure, and a longer season; but for a few trees only, well taken up and safely transported, I should prefer the spring.

Digging holes is the best of the bad modes of planting, unless those holes are connected with each other by a drain of rough stones or tiles, so as to lead off the stagnant waters to the lowest parts of the ground. A hole dug in the middle of a bed of clay is a tub where all the surrounding waters collect, and as nothing is more injurious to the roots of any fruit tree than stagnant waters, in all seasons of the year, it follows that the very thing intended for good purposes, proves the most injurious, unless, in digging the holes, a very permeable gravel or subsoil has been reached. When the hole is *made, break* in the edges with pick-axe or spade.

These, Mr. Editor, are the shortest answers I can give to your inquiries. If they prove of any use to your readers, I shall gladly comply with your other requests.

"I Did as the Rest Did."—This tame yielding spirit—this doing "as the rest did"—has ruined thousands.

A young man is invited by vicious companions to visit the tavern or the gambling room, or other haunts of licentiousness. He becomes dissipated, spends his time, loses his credit, squanders his property, and at last sinks into an untimely grave. What ruined him? Simply "doing what the rest did."

A father has a family of sons. He is wealthy, other children in the same situation of life do so and so, are indulged in this thing and that. He indulges his own in the same way. They grow up idlers, triflers, and fops.

The father wonders why his children do not succeed better. He has spent so much money on their education, has given them great advantages; but alas! they are only a source of vexation and trouble. Poor man, he is just paying the penalty of "doing as the rest did."

This poor mother strives hard to bring up her daughters genteelly. They learn, what others do, to paint, to sing, to play, to dance, and several other useless matters. In time, they marry. Their husbands are unable to support their extravagance, and they are soon reduced to poverty and wretchedness. The good woman is astonished. "Truly,' says she, "I did as the rest did."

Warranted.—A church collector with a long nasal appendage had the misfortune to bruise the end of it and he applied a circular piece of "court plaster." When he commenced passing the contribution box on the Sabbath he was observed to stoop and pick something from the floor, wet it and apply it to the "sore spot." As he passed on a general smile and twitter pervaded the congregation much to his discomfeiture. "It came out" that instead of picking up the fallen plaster, he took up a label from the end of a thread spool, and upon his long nose was plainly marked—

Warranted
200
yards.

To go through Smoke.—Wet a silk handkerchief and place it over the face. The air coming through the wet silk will have much of the suffocating material removed from it. The carbonic acid however will not be stopped, and on this account this remedy may often fail.—Ed.

Good in other Cases.—A termagant having threatened her husband with a blow up—" My dearest blossom," said he, "commit your remarks to paper and read them to me."

A French woman marries by calculation, an English woman from custom, and a German from love. A French woman loves to the end of the honey-moon, an English woman for life, a German forever.

When a lazy man says, "I'll do it at my leisure," you may take it for granted he'll never do it at all."

HOW TO AVOID FIRES.

In New-York City, there is a special Fire Marshal, whose sole business is to inquire into the cause of every fire that occurs. After a long investigation of this subject, he has drawn up a set of precautionary rules, which are printed on cards and hung up all through the city. These rules are valuable to all, and we hang them up in this column for you reader.

"Keep matches in metal boxes, and out of the reach of children.

Wax matches are particularly dangerous, and should be kept out of the way of rats and mice.

Fill fluid or camphene lamps only by daylight, and never near a fire or light.

Do not deposit coal or wood ashes in wooden vessels, and be sure burning cinders are extinguished before deposited.

Never place a light or ashes under a staircase.

Never take a light to examine a gas meter.

Be careful never to place gas or other lights near curtains.

Never take a light into a closet.

Do not read in bed by candle or lamp light.

Place glass shades over gas lights in show windows, and do not crowd goods near them.

No smoking should be permitted in warehouses, particularly where goods are packed, or cotton stored.

Where furnaces are used, the principal register should always be fastened open.

Stove pipes should be at least four inches from woodwork, and guarded by tin."

WEATHER, &c., IN UPPER CANADA.

Rev. A. Dixon writes us from St. Catharines, C. W., Nov. 20: This Niagara District, situated between the Lakes Ontario and Erie, is remarkably fitted by nature for the growth of fruit and flowers. The climate, owing to its proximity to large bodies of water, is more temperate than almost any other part of Canada, or the State of New-York. The hard and soft-shelled almonds come to perfection in this neighborhood, and the hedges of the "three-thorned Acacia" are not injured by the winter. The Isabella and Sweet water Grapes grow luxuriously without any protection. Apricots ripen well, but it is difficult to get a crop of them, or of Nectarines, or of choice plums, owing to the ravages of the Curculio. We have had very heavy storms this fall, but little frost, and one or two slight sprinklings of snow. The Chrysanthemums are still in full bloom, and last year continued so until late in December. The railroads in Western Canada were not obstructed by the heavy falls of snow 24 hours the whole of last winter

We are glad to hear from the "Niagara District," for on a farm in that very district, on *this* side of the river, we had a "hand in" farm operations from our "earliest recollection" until 1841. If we remember rightly some of Mr. Dixon's neighbors' sons were our winter school-mates at the old Lewiston Academy, in *auld lang syne.*[—Ed.

Mr. Coffin's Sale of Stock.—This sale noticed in our last, came off at Amenia, N. Y., on the 12th ult. The attendance was large, the bidding spirited, and the prices realized generally satisfactory to Mr. C., we believe. Thirty six South Down Ewes, were sold at prices ranging from $6 to $15 each. Two Bucks brought $18 each. Some thirty Cotswolds Ewes, &c., sold for $10 to $15.

Ayrshire Cattle.—Bull "Malcolm," three years old, was struck off to P. Powers Esq., of Amenia, N. Y., at $130—considered to be but half his value. Cow, "Flora" 4 years old, was taken by Mr. Alfred M. Treadwell, of Morristown, N. J., at $135. Mr. T. also bought one of her calves, "Effie," got by Malcolm, 2 years old, at $125. "Roderick" a fine 8 months old calf, was bought by Mr. Geo. T. Concklin, of N. Y. city, who has recently purchased the farm of Mr. Coffin. It will be remembered that this farm took the first prize of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society.

A number of Suffolk pigs, six to nine month's old, sold for $12 to $20 per pair.

AMERICAN HERD-BOOK, VOL. III.—Those who have addressed inquiries to us, are informed that it is proposed to issue the 3d Volume, May 1st, 1857. All pedigrees to be entered must be sent in before Dec. 1st, 1856. A circular giving full particulars can be obtained by addressing the editor—LEWIS F. ALLEN, at Black Rock, Erie Co., N. Y.

Business Notices.

POSTAGE ON THE AGRICULTURIST.

Notwithstanding our frequent statements that the postage on this journal is but *six cents a year*, when prepaid by subscribers, yet, in violation of the plain letter of the law, several Post-Masters have persisted in charging 12 to 36 cents a year. The following official document will set the matter at rest hereafter we trust.—ED.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.
Appointment Office,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 18, 1856.

SIR:—In answer to your communication of the 15th inst, I have to state that the postage on the monthly "American Agriculturist," (each number weighing under three ounces) when paid quarterly in advance, is 1½ cents, or 6 cents a year in advance.

HORATIO KING.
1st. Asst. P. M. Gen.

ORANGE JUDD, Esq.
Am. Agriculturist. New-York.

MODEL LETTERS.

During the past month, we have been favored with some *two thousand* letters, from almost as many different Post offices, nearly all of which we have personally opened and read, besides attending to our usual other labors. For brevity and yet clearness of expression, these letters could hardly be excelled. Few of them have exceeded three lines, and not half a dozen have omitted to give *Post Office, County and State.* While most of them have contained remittances in various sums, from all over the Union, we have received but a single "bad bill," and we have heard of only one loss by mail thus far. Few publishers cay say as much for one month's work? We are increasing our office help, and shall be able to attend to as many more such letters as our friends will favor us with.

We may as well say here, that it is a standing rule of our office, that every subscription received, must be properly entered on the day of reception, and all back numbers called for be mailed on the same day, as an immediate acknowledgment of the arrival of money.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our friends have highly favored us the past month. We have before us communications enough to entirely fill this number, but have been obliged to lay very many over. Will all who write us please bear in mind that the principal matter for each number is planned *before* the middle of the preceding month. Short communications, with the principal facts in a condensed, but *plain* style, are always preferable. The experience of actual cultivators with old and new crops, with fruit, animals, &c., are highly valuable. The more of these the better. No two men do the same thing in precisely the same way. The description of any one man's practice will afford hints to hundreds, perhaps thousands of others. Let no one fear to describe his own methods and the results, for fear of lacking *novelty*. We will try and look out for that matter.—ED.

THAT "BAKER'S DOZEN."

In our last we offered to all *new* subscribers for 1857, the last two numbers of this year *without charge*. We have several amusing letters upon what constitutes a "Baker's Dozen." Most of these argue that a baker's dozen is only *thirteen*, whereas, our offer implied that it is fourteen. As you like it gentlemen. We can't stop to argue the matter. *Our* baker is a more liberal one than your's, we suspect. We will still offer *your* baker's dozen (13 months,) to all new subscribers, who reach us before our extra edition of this number is exhausted. We kept the type of the November number standing until the last moment, and struck off a large supply of extra copies. While these last, they are still offered together with the December number, *free* to new subscribers for 1857. No difference in this respect between single and club subscribers.

TO OUR NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

A welcome to you individually, ladies as well as gentlemen, for there are not a few of the former. Well! many of you have seen the *first* copy of our sheet. How do you like it? We will not "pause for a reply." We trust you will like us *better* before another year is out. If you like the last two numbers of this volume, we know you will be better pleased with at least some of the twelve numbers yet to come.

The November and December numbers are offered *free* as an introduction. If you like our acquaintance, please introduce your friends and neighbors. We will be pleased to serve them to the best of our ability. Not a few of those sending for the "Baker's Dozen," have al-already forwarded other new names, and promised more. They have our thanks. How many others will do likewise? There is still a chance for others to get the "Baker's Dozen." The next volume will be a "Baker's Dozen" of itself.

A SPECIAL REQUEST.

With this number we send out "notices" to a considerable number of persons whose term of subscription now expires. We believe all understand that the Agriculturist is never *forced* upon any one, but is stopped when the time is up for which it has been ordered. There is no more justice in sending a paper where it is not been called for, than there would be in sending two, three, or four plows, where but one had been ordered. We have, however, a confident belief that all present readers of this journal, will call for it another and still another year. What we particularly request now, is, that those intending to renew, and to send other names with their own, will do so at once, so that we may in the early part of this month get the names arranged upon the new mail books, and the wrappers written ready for mailing the next number as soon as issued; and also know how many to print. Where clubs are formed, new names may be added afterwards at the same rates as those first sent.

SEEDS, &c.—Several subscribers write us for various kinds of seeds, implements, &c. We will do what we can to oblige such, but, for the present, unless to accommodate persons living in remote towns, we would prefer to have them send direct to dealers, as we have little time to attend to any other business, than that legitimately connected with the paper. Our advertising columns will usually contain full information on agricultural and horticultural matters. In order to make room for the Index in the present number we were compelled to refuse nearly all advertisements not actually engaged before the first of the month.

King Phillip's corn, several times enquired for, is quite common, and will doubtless be advertised by dealers in time to be procured for Spring planting.—ED.

STOVE BLACKING.—We have tried several kinds and are quite free to say that the best we have yet found is that made by Messrs. Quarterman & Son, at 114 John-st., in this city. It is used with water in the same manner as boot blacking, and can be put on a hot or cold stove; and being free from acids, and of an oily nature, it is even a preventive against rust. We give this notice without solicitation, simply to advise our readers of what we consider a valuable new preparation.—ED.

STITCHING THE NUMBERS.—All the future numbers of the Agriculturist will be accurately folded ready for binding, and stitched, as heretofore. This involves an extra expense of near $200 annually, but we think it pays. The sheets are better kept together, and each subscriber is saved the necessity of hunting up pins, or needle and thread, or calling upon "Mother," "Wife," or "Sister," to "sew the paper."

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &C.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, Nov. 28, 1856.

There have been at least three ups and downs in the Bread-Stuff Markets, resulting from alternate large and small receipts, ease and stringency in the Money Market, and favorable and unfavorable news from Europe; on the whole there has been a decline in prices. The tables below will show the amount of changes during 30 days. Our Index and Title page, leave us no room for further general remarks in this number.

The following table shows the total receipts of flour and grain in this city by Railroad, River, Canal and Coastwise for 27 business days ending to-day:

Flour	607.000 bbls.	Rye	26.000 bush.
Wheat	2.587.000 bush.	Oats	91.500 bush.
Corn	957.000 bush.	Barley	75.600 bush.

We find upon our note-book records of the following sales in this city for 27 business days ending to-day:

Flour	389.145 bbls.	Rye	110.000 bush.
Wheat	2.362.400 bush.	Barley	53.000 bush,
Corn	1.059.500 bush.		

The following figures show the present prices of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report:

	Oct.	Nov.
Flour—Ordinary State	$6 50@6 00	6 10@ 6 25
Various Western brands	6 70@ 8 50	6 30@ 8 00
Favorite and Ex. State	6 75@ 7 00	6 40@ 6 70
Extra Genesee	7 25@ 9 00	7 00@ 8 75
Wheat—Canada White	1 70@ 1 73	1 67@ 1 71
Southern White	1 60@ 1 75	1 60@ 1 66
Southern Red	1 53@ 1 60	1 45@ 1 54
Western Red and White	1 65@ 1 80	1 35@ 1 70
Corn—Mixed	62@ 69	70@ 73
Yellow and White	69@ 75	73@ 75
Rye—New	85@ 87	88@ 90
Barley	1 15@ 1 30	1 10@ 1 30
Oats—Western, &c	38@ 47	40@ 50
Cotton—Middling and Fair	12¼@ 14	12@ 13½
Rice ₰ 100lbs	3 87@ 4 87	3 62@4 50
Pork—Mess ₰ bbl.	20 75@21 00	17 87@19 25
Dressed Hogs ₰ lb.	7¼@ 8¼	7½@ 7⅞
Lard, in bbls ₰ lb.	12¾@ 14	12@ 13
Butter—Western ₰ lb.	16@ 21	16@ 22
State ₰ lb.	19@ 25	20@ 29
Orange Co ₰ lb.	25@ 30	28@ 31
Cheese ₰ lb.	8@ 10½	8@ 10½
Potatoes—Carters ₰ bbl.	1 50@ 1 62	2 00@ 2 50
Mercers ₰ bbl.	1 50@ 2 50	1 75@ 2 75
Onions—Reds ₰ bbl.	1 25@ 1 37	1 62@ 1 75
White ₰ bbl.	2 00@ 2 50	1 50@ 2 00
Apples ₰ bbl.	1 00@ 3 50	2 00@ 4 50
Eggs, fresh, per dozen	21@ 21½	24@ 25
Limed, " "	18@ 20	20@ 21

Beef Cattle have been less abundant during the month. The receipts for five weeks, ending November 26, compare as follows:

	1855.	1856.
Total of Beeves for 5 weeks	22.283	19.239
Weekly average	4 457	3.848

The receipts were, for week ending October 29, 4,846; November 5, 3,693; November 12, 3,557; November 19, 3,845; November 26, 3,289. The prices declined a trifle October 29; advanced a shade, November 5, and 12; advanced ½c. November 19; and declined ¼c. November 26. Wednesday last, November 26, the prices ranged: Premium cattle 10¼c.a10½c. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality, 9½c.a10c.; Medium quality, 8¾c.a9¼c.; Poor quality, 8c.a8¼c.; Poorest quality, 7¼c.a7½c.; General selling prices, 8½c.a9½c. Average of all sales about 9c.—an advance of ½c. during the month.

The supply of sheep and lambs has been pretty fair, but less than last year, with no material change in prices. Receipts for *five* weeks ending November 26.

	1855.	1856.
Total of seeep and lambs	79.315.	61.507
Weekly average	15.863.	12.301

The above figures refer to live animals. There is an unusual number of carcasses brought in which keeps prices moderate.

Hogs, are just now a drug; 16,722 were received here during the past week; selling at 6c.a6¼c. per lb., live weight, but sales dull.

THE WEATHER.—There have been some snows and hard frosts at the North and North-West, but generally the Weather has been mild and pleasant, with no freezing in this latitude sufficient to retard working the ground. Farmer's have had a fine time to "finish up" their fall work. Our weather notes condensed read: October 29, to November 2, clear and fine with frost November 1st; November 3, cloudy; 4, rainy; 5, clear, cool; 6, 7, clear, frosty mornings; 9 to 20, clear, fine, frosty mornings—11 Thermometer at 26°—21, coldest day of month—23.—milder and rain P. M.; 22, rain A. M.; 23, 24, clear, mild; 25, rain P. M.; 26, 27, 28, clear; mild, even warm.

☞ Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

BACK VOLUMES.

We have *only* Volumes XII, XIII and XIV. Price, Bound, $1 50.—Unbound, $1 00 per volume.

BACK NUMBERS.

We have sundry *odd* numbers of Volumes, XI to XIV, These will be sent free to those wishing to complete their volumes for binding.

Of Volume XV, we have several copies of October, November, December, May, June, and September, (Nos. 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9) and a very few of July (No. 10.) Any one of these will be sent to subscribers post-paid, on the receipt of three 3-cent stamps.

Advertisements.

TERMS—(invariably cash before insertion):

Fifteen cents per line (of ten words) for each insertion.

No advertisement taken at less than one dollar.

By the column or half column, $17 per column for the first insertion, and $14 for each subsequent insertion.

Advertisements are estimated according to *amount* of space occupied.

☞ Business Notices 25 cents a line.

LECTURES ON AGRICULTURE, IN THE SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL OF YALE COLLEGE.

THE FOLLOWING COURSES begin on Wednesday, Jan. 14, 1857, and continue six weeks:

On the Chemistry and General Principles of Agriculture—30 Lectures by Prof. J. A. Potter; fee, $7 50.

On Practical Agriculture and Rural Economy—30 Lectures by Prof. S. W. Johnson; fee, $7 50.

Daily Recitations will be conducted br Mr. H. M. Seely.

The Lectures on Practical Agriculture will be delivered in case a reasonable number of applications be made, (by letter to Prof. Johnson,) before the 1st of Jan. On or before that day, notice will be mailed to all who shall have applied, whether or not this course will be given.

Board and lodging may be had at $3 to $5 per week.

New-Haven, Conn., Nov. 1856. 119n134

MORGAN HORSES.

A PREMIUM ESSAY
ON THE
ORIGIN, HISTORY AND CHARACTERISTICS
OF THIS REMARKABLE
American Breed of Horses.
Tracing the Pedigree from the original Justin Morgan,
through the most noted of his Progeny,
down to the present time.
WITH NUMEROUS PORTRAITS.
TO WHICH ARE ADDED
Hints for Breeding, Breaking, and general Use and Management of Horses,
With Practical Directions for Training them for Exhibition at Agricultural Fairs.
BY D. C. LINSLEY, MIDDLEBURY, VT.

☞ New-York: C. M. SAXTON & Co., Agricultural Book Publishers, No. 140 Fulton-st. Price $1. Sent free of postage.

ALSO PUBLISHED AS ABOVE,

Allens' Domestic Animals	$0 75
Stewart and Allen's Stable Book	1 00
Miles on the Horse's Foot	75
Dadd's American Cattle Doctor	1 00
Youatt's Shepherd's Own Book	2 00

All sent free of postage on receipt of price.

C. M. SAXTON & CO.,
119n185 No. 140 Fulton-st., N. Y.

CHINESE SUGAR CANE, OR SORGHO SUCRE.

Pure Seed.

THE SUBSCRIBER HEREBY informs the Planters, Farmers, and Gardners of the United States, that he has obtained from R. Peters, Esq., of this City, the control of his crop of Seed of this valuable plant, some of the properties of which may be briefly summed up as follows:

First. An acre of the Stalks properly cultivated, will yield from 400 to 500 gallons of pure Syrup, equal to the best New Orleans.

Second. It surpasses all otherplants for fodder and for feeding green to cattle or hogs, on account of the great abundance of sugary juice which it contains; and sown in close drills, will yield from thirty to fifty thousand pounds of superior Green Fodder to the acre.

Third. It is so certain and prolific a crop that Planters may be sure of succeeding with it as a syrup plant anywhere south of the State of New-York.

This seed, which has been carefully kept pure, is now offered in cloth packages, each containing enough to plant half an acre, 4 feet x 1½ feet, will be furnished by mail at $1 80 each, or at $1 if sent by express, freight unpaid.

Dealers in Seeds and Country Merchants, or persons wishing to plant by the quantity, can be supplied at a liberal discount from retail rates.

A pamphlet containing a full description of this plant, its history, valuable properties, and a place of the horse mill used for crushing, will be furnished by mail to all applicants.

Address; with plain directions for mailing or shippling,
W. P. ORME, Atlanta, Georgia.
Atlanta, Nov. 7, 1856. 119n131

LAWTON BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

The Subscribers announce to their friends and customers that they have now

OVER SIX ACRES
of the
GENUINE LAWTON
BLACKBERRY PLANTS

under cultivation, and in good condition.

They are therefore prepared to fill large orders the coming FALL and the following SPRING.

PRICES.

$25	per	Hundred plants.
$12 50	per	Fifty plants.
$5	per	Dozen plants.
$2 50	per	Half dozen plants.

N. B. All plants ordered of us will be TAKEN up and PACKED with the GREATEST CARE; and UNDER OUR OWN PERSONAL SUPERVISION.

Of the MANY THOUSANDS sent out by us last year we have heard very few instances of ailure, notwithstanding that they have been forwarded to EVERY PART OF THE COUNTRY, and the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Printed directions for setting and cultivating are sent with every package.

GEORGE SEYMOUR & CO.,
South Norwalk, Conn.

THE NEW-ROCHELLE BLACKBERRY.

☞ PRICE REDUCED. ☜

THE SUBSCRIBER, BEING ONE OF the oldest and most successful cultivators of this superior fruit, offers for sale well-rooted Plants of good size, carefully packed so as to go safely to any part of the world, and deliverable in November, March or April, at

$4 PER DOZEN, OR $18 PER HUNDRED.

Full directions for their cultivation given with each parcel of Plants.

N. B.—This is the same BLACKBERRY which is by some, though erroneously, called the "*Lawton*" BLACKBERRY.

ISAAC ROOSEVELT,
116 118n102 Pelham, Westchester Co., N. Y.

LAWTON'S BLACKBERRY PLANTS

PRICES FOR THE AUTUMN OF 1856.

Packages of Six Plants	$3 00
Packages of Twelve Plants	5 00
Packages of Fifty Plants	15 00
Packages of One Hundred Plants	25 00

Orders supplied in rotation as received, and none sold but the pure plants of MY OWN RAISING. A reduction to clubs. The money should accompany the order.

Packages of roots will be forwarded by any express or transportation line leaving New-York city.

WM. LAWTON,
No. 54 Wall-st., New-York,
111—tfn41 or at New-Rochelle, N. Y.

POULTRY FOR SALE.

BY SHERMAN SMITH,

PORT CHESTER, N. Y.

PURE BREED.—BLACK SPANISH, YELLOW DORKINGS, KNACKER DUCKS:

Bremen Geese,
African do.
Wild do.
Wild Turkeys,
Large Breed Common Turkeys,
Chinese White Ducks,
Aylesbury Ducks,
Black Cayuga Ducks,
White Dorkings,
Grey do.
Plock Polands,
White do.
Silver Pheasants,
Golden do.

Black Shanghai,
White do.
Buff do.
Dominick do.
Red do.
Golden Pencil Shanghae,
Silver do. do.
Black Spanish Game,
Irish Game,
Summatra Game,
Black Bantam,
Buff do.
White do,

119n137

BERKSHIRE PIGS FOR SALE AT EDWARD WAIT'S, Orange County, N. Y.

Three pairs about three months' old, very fine.

Two boars about six months' old, very good.

All the above is from good stock, crossed with Lewis G. Morris' stock. 119n136.

WYANDOT PROLIFIC CORN.

THE GREATEST AGRICULTURAL wonder of the age. Its discovery worth millions to the country. Yield 150 bushels to the acre, (some say 200.) Plant only one kernel in a hill, each kernel will produce from three to 12 stalks, 10 to 12 feet high, 4 to 20 ears, 8 to 14 inches long, 10 to 16 rows, of beautiful pearl white corn. Seed selected with care, warranted genuine, put in a parcel sufficient to plant an acre. Price $1 50, delivered in New-York City. Money or P. O. stamps must accompany the order, with directions how to send.

Those who order sent by mail, and remit $4, will receive, post paid, a parcel to plant an acre; $2, half an acre; $1 quarter of an acre. Orders for less double the above rates. Circulars showing the result from different parts of the Union, will be sent to all who send them. Address to J. C. THOMPSON, Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y. 119-123n133

Cotton and Flax Seed Oil.

WILLIAM WILBER HAS JUST PUT into successful operation his *newly patented Machinery for Hulling Cotton Seed*, and the steam process in extricating oils from oleaginous seeds. The press is upon an entirely new principle, making a great saving in labor and materials. For information respecting the use of the patents or purchase of State rights, apply to the Geneard Agent for the States and Europe.

119n130 CHARLES VAN WYCK.
No. 103 Fulton-st., New York.

PERUVIAN GUANO—*At lowest market prices*,

wholesale and retail—with Government weight and brand on each bag, for sale at the AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT AND SEED Warehouse of

R. L. ALLEN,
Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.
ALLEN'S CELEBRATED MOWING MACHINE
CANNOT CLOG.

LAWTON (OR NEW-ROCHELLE) BLACKBERRY PLANTS.

☞ PRICES REDUCED. ☜

The subscribers have become Agents for the sale of the genuine Lawton (or New Rochelle) Blackberry Plants raised by Messrs. George Seymour & Co. of South Norwalk, Conn., and Messrs. Hallock of Milton, N. Y.

We are prepared to receive large orders the coming Fall and Spring, deliverable from the middle of October until the ground freezes, and from the middle of March until the middle of May.

PRICES.

$20 00	per	hundred	plants,
11 00	"	fifty	"
4 00	"	dozen	"
2 25	"	half dozen	"

Cost of package for a dozen or half dozen, 12 1-2 cents; for fifty or a hundred, 25 cents—larger packages proportionably less.

The name of the grower, who will *personally* superintend the taking up and packing, with directions for setting and cultivating, will accompany each package.

The plants raised by these parties have been during the last year forwarded to *every part of the country*, and very few instances of failure have occurred, although the setting out has often been entrusted to unskillful hands.

Orders must be accompanied by the cash to ensure fulfillment

We are permitted to refer to
Hon. Horace Greeley, Editor New-York Tribune;
Orange Judd, Esq., " American Agriculturist;
James J. Mapes, Esq., " Working Farmer;
Solon Robinson, Esq., Agricultural Editor New-York Tribune;
Thomas Drew, Esq., Editor Worcester Spy, Worcester, Mass.
Stafford Cleveland. Esq., " Yates County Whig;
James S. Gibbons, Esq., No. 10 Wall-street, New-York;
Richard H. Manning, Esq., No. 54 Cortlandt-street.

N. B.—Orders should be given as early in the season as practicable, and will be filled in the order of their reception.

Pamphlets may be obtained of us on application by mail or otherwise, free of charge, giving statement of origin, history and characteristics, &c.

DREW & FRENCH,
Fruit and Produce Dealers,
116-118n97 No. 85 Barclay-street, New-York.

NEW-ROCHELLE (LAWTON) BLACKBERRY.

—Genuine Plants for sale on liberal terms by the subscriber.

SIMEON LESTER,
New-Rochelle,
Westchester Co., N. Y.

Can apply for information at
J. W. LESTER'S,
No. 161 Water-street.

116-121n104

Prospectus, for 1857.

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Established Aug. 4th, 1821.

THE PUBLISHERS OF THIS OLD and firmly established paper take pleasure in calling the attention of the public to their programme for the coming year. Surfeited with politics, the claims of literature will be more than ever appreciated by the reading world. We have therefore already made arrangements with the following brilliant list of writers:—

WILLIAM HOWITT, (*of England*,) ALICE CARY, T. S. ARTHUR, MRS. SOUTHWORTH, AUGUSTINE DUGANNE, MRS. M. A. DENISON, *the author of "ZILLAH,"* &c.

We design commencing in the first number in January next, the following original Novelet:—

TALLENGETTA, OR THE SQUATTER'S HOME.

By WILLIAM HOWITT, author of "Rural Life in England," "Homes of the Poets." &c., &c.

This is a STORY OF AUSTRALIAN LIFE, Mr. Howitt having visited Australia expressly with the object of acquainting himself with the novel and romantic aspects under which nature and society present themselves in that singular region.

The following Novelets will then be given, though probably not in the exact order here mentioned:—

THE STORY OF A COUNTRY GIRL.

By ALICE CARY. An original Novelet, written expressly for the Post.

THE WITHERED HEART.

An original Novelet, written expressly for the Post, by T. S. ARTHUR.

LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND.

An original Novelet by the author of "My Confession," "Zillah, or the Child Medium," &c.

THE QUAKER'S PROTEGE.

An original Novelet, by Mrs. MARY A. DENNISON, author of "Mark, the Sexton," "Home Pictures," &c.

THE RAID OF BURGUNDY.

A TALE OF THE SWISS CANTONS. An original Novelet, by AUGUSTINE DUGANNE, author of "The Lost of the Wilderness," &c.

We have also the promise of a short and condensed

NOVELET, by Mrs. SOUTHWORTH,

to run through about six or eight numbers of the Post.

☞ In addition to the above list of contributions, we design continuing the usual amount of Foreign Letters, Original Sketches, Choice Selections from all sources, Agricultural Articles, General News, Humorous Anecdotes, View of the Produce and Stock Markets, the Philadelphia Retail Markets, Bank Note List, Editorials, &c., &c., our object being to give a Complete Record, as far as our limits will admit, of the Great World.

ENGRAVINGS.—In the way of Engravings, we generally present two weekly—one of an instructive, and the other of a humorous character.

The Postage on the Post to any part of the United States, paid quarterly or yearly in advance, at the office where it is received, is only 26 cents a year.

TERMS (Cash in advance)—Single copy $2 a year.

4 copies	$5 00 a year.
8 copies, (And one to the getter up of the Club,)	10 00 a year.
13 copies, (And one to the getter up of the Club,)	15 00 a year.
20 copies, (And one to the getter up of the Club,)	20 00 a year.

Address, *always post paid*,
DEACON & PETERSON,
No. 66 South Third-street, Philadelphia.

☞ SAMPLE NUMBERS sent gratis to any one, when requested.

☞ TO EDITORS.—Editors who give the above one insertion, or condense the material portions of it, (the notices of new contributions and our terms,) for their *editorial* columns, shall be entitled to an exchange by sending a *marked* copy of the paper containing the advertisement or notice. 119-120n129

ANDRE LEROY'S NURSERIES AT ANGERS, FRANCE.

MR. ANDRE LEROY, MEMBER OF the principal Horticultural and Agricultural Societies of Europe and America, and lately promoted by the French Emperor to the rank of Knight of the Legion of Honor for the best Nursery products exhibited at the World's Fair held in Paris, begs leave to inform his friends and the public that he has just published his new Catalogue for 1856, being more extensive and complete than that of any similar establishment on the Continent. It contains the prices, &c., of all the Fruit, Ornamental and Evergreen Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Camellias, Stocks, Seedlings, &c., &c , with the necessary information for importing same. His experience in putting up orders for America, and the superior quality of his plants, have been too well appreciated during a period of ten years to require further comment. The Catalogue can be obtained free of charge, on application to the undersigned agent, who will also receive and forward the orders. Mr. A. Leroy is happy in being able to state that his Nurseries were not reached by the inundation which so recently devastated a portion of the district in which they are situated.

ANDRE LEROY, Angers.
F. A. BRUGUIERE, Sole Agent,
117-119n105 No. 138 Pearl-street, New-York.

HORSE POWERS AND THRESHERS.

—I have for sale the best and most approved made in the United States, viz :

Allen's celebrated one horse endless chain power.
Emery's Patent do do do
Allen's celebrated two do do do
Emery's patent two do do do
Trimble's one to four horse iron circular power.
Warren's do do do do
Eddy's or Tasslin's superior wood and wrought iron one to six horse circular power.
Hall's or Pitts one to eight horse iron circular power, much used in California and other Western State

THRESHERS.

Allen's or Emery's Threshers with or without Separators.
Eddy's Iron Cylinder Threshers.
Hall's or Pitts and other make Threshers and Cleaners combined, for two to eight horses.

R. L. ALLEN, Nos. 189 and 191 Water-st.

PROFITABLE EMPLOYMENT FOR THE WINTER MONTHS.

PLEASE TO READ THIS!

AGENTS WANTED.

EXTRA INDUCEMENTS FOR 1857.

☞ All persons in want of employment will at once receive our Catalogue of Books for the New .Year, prepaid, by forwarding us their address. Particular attention is requested to the liberal offers we make to all persons engaging in the sale of our Large Type Quarto PICTORIAL FAMILY BIBLE, with about ONE THOUSAND ENGRAVINGS.

☞ On receipt of the established price, Six Dollars, the PICTORIAL FAMILY BIBLE, with a well bound Subscription Book, will be carefully boxed, and forwarded per express, at our risk and expense, to any central town or village in the United States, excepting those of California, Oregon and Texas.

☞ Our books are sold only by canvassers, and well known to be the most saleable. Address, (post paid,)

ROBERT SEARS,
118-119n120 No. 181 William-street, New-York.

ALLEN'S IMPROVED MOWER, AND MOWER AND REAPER—the best in America.

A large assortment of the most approved Agricultural and Horticultural implements, of good quality and at low prices,

For sale by R. L. ALLEN,
109— 189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

YOUATT'S CONDITION POWDERS,

For HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP and SWINE—cures Heaves, Cough, Glanders, and all diseases resulting from Colds, and which affect the mucous membrane of the lungs, throat and head of the Horse. Also expels Botts and Worms, loosens the hide, improves the appetite, and keeps the animal in good condition. Youatt's Condition Powders are recommended to all who take a pride in preserving the good health and fine appearance of their Stock. Price 50 cents a package. Sold at wholesale by Haviland, Harral & Risley, Wholesale Druggists, No. 39 Warren-st., and by dealers generally. 114-119n70

DOCTOR HOOFLAND'S
CELEBRATED
GERMAN BITTERS,

PREPARED BY

Dr. C. M. JACKSON, Philad'a, Pa.

WILL EFFECTUALLY CURE
LIVER COMPLAINT, DYSPEPSIA, JAUNDICE,
CHRONIC OR NERVOUS DEBILITY,
DISEASES OF THE KIDNEYS,
AND ALL DISEASES
ARISING FROM
A DISOR-
DERED
LIVER
OR
STOMACH;

Such as Constipation, Inward Piles, Fullness or Blood to the Head, Acidity of the Stomach, Nausea, Heartburn, Disgust for Food, Fullness or Weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinking or Fluttering at the Pit of the Stomach, Swimming of the Head, Hurried and Difficult Breathing, Fluttering at the Heart, Choking or Suffocating Sensations when in a lying posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots of Webs before the Sight, Fever, and Dull Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness of the Skin and Eyes, Pain in the Side, Back, Chest, Limbs, &c., Sudden Flushes of Heat, Burning in the Flesh, Constant Imaginings of Evil, and Great Depression of Spirits.

The Proprietor, in calling the attention of the public to this preparation, does so with a feeling of the utmost confidence in its virtues and adaptation to the diseases for which it is recommended.

It is no new and untried article, but one that has stood the test of a ten years' trial before the American people, and its reputation and sale is unrivalled by any similar preparations extant. The testimony in its favor, given by the most prominent and well-know physicians and individuals in all parts of the country, is immense, and a careful perusal of the Almanac, published annually by the Proprietor, and to be had gratis of any o his Agents, cannot but satisfy the most skeptical that thi remedy is really deserving the great celebrity it has obtained "

Principal Office and Manufactory, No. 96 ARCH-street, Phil delphia, Pa. And for sale by all Druggists and Store-keepe in every town and village in the United States and Canadas.
117-119n116

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY

IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL

ABOUT TWO MILLION OF ACRES

OF

FARMING LANDS,

IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,

ON LONG CREDITS AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and are among the richest and most fertile in the State. They extend with the road, from Chicago on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the extreme northwestern part of the State. Most of these lands lie immediately on, and within six miles of the road, and none are more than fifteen miles distant from it; hence, ready and cheap facilities are furnished for transporting their products to any of the Eastern or Southern markets The great increase of population by immigration, etc., and the consequent rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages, on the line of the road and throughout the State, furnishes a substantial and growing home demand for every kind of farm and garden produce.

In the Northern and Central parts of the State, prairie lands predominate, interspersed with magnificent groves of oak and other timber; in the Southern, the timber is more abundant, and exceedingly valuable.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc. The air is pure and bracing, the climate more healthy, mild and equable than that of any other part of the Union; while living streams and springs of excellent water abound.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the nowly broken sod usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one and a half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from \$2 to \$3 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern, and to Cairo for the Southern market.

Bituminous coal is extensively mined along the road, and supplies a cheap and desirable fuel; being furnished at many points at \$1 50 to \$4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord. Extensive quarries have been opened in the southern part of the State, near the line of this road—of building stone of excellent quality—such as white and blue Limestone, and white and red Sandstone—which can be had for little more than the expense of transportation.

The Government lands, in the Land States, having generally been withdrawn from market, emigrants from the Eastern States and Europe can be accommodated by this Company with valuable farms, at the old prices and terms, which, in all probability, will double in value within twelve mouths.

When those lands are restored to market, persons who think of settling on them, or in Minnesota, should bear in mind that the lands of this Company, at the prices for which they are sold, are better investments than those in other States or Territories, more remote from market, at Government prices; for the reason that the expense of transporting the products of the latter to market will always be a heavy drawback on them, and after a few years cultivation they require manuring, which is not the case with Illinois lands.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of transportation, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road, and others with which it connects, the operations of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from \$5 to \$25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made until further notice, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract, and the lands are not subject to taxation till finally paid for.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, \$250 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

It is believed that the price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter, in English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,
Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.,
Office in Illinois Central Railroad Depot, Chicago, Ill.
118—120n123

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE AND SEED STORE.

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS WILL find at my Warehouse every Implelement or Machine required on a PLANTATION, FARM, or GARDEN. In addition to the foregoing, I would all attention to the following, among many others :

VEGETABLE CUTTERS and VEGETABLE BOILERS, for cutting and boiling food for stock.

BUSH HOOKS and SCYTHES, ROOT-PULLERS, POST-HOLE AUGURS, OX YOKES, OX, LOG and TRACE CHAINS.

Grub Hoes, Picks, Shovels,
Spades, Wheelbarrows, Harrows,
Cultivators, Road-Scrapers, Grindstones,
Seed and Grain Drills, Garden Engines.

Sausage Cutters and Stuffers, Garden and Field Rollers, Mowing and Reaping Machines, Churns, Cheese Presses, Portable Blacksmith Forges, Bark Mills, Corn and Cob Crushers, Weather Vanes, Lightning Rods, Horticultural and Carpenters' Tool Chests.

Clover Hullers, Saw Machines, Cotton Gins,
Shingle Machines, Scales, Gin Gear.
Apple Parers, Rakes, Wire Cloth,
Hay and Manure Forks, Belting for Machinery, &c.

R. L. ALLEN,
189 and 191 Water-st., New-York.

THE LAWTON BLACKBERRY is the

queen of all berries—of most magnificent proportions, exquisite flavor, and delicate texture.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican, Sept* 4, 1855.

Description of the Plant.—This is an original and entirely distinct variety, and not, as some suppose, the "New-Rochelle Blackberry," improved by cultivation, (the plants which abound in that neighborhood being no better than those growing wild in every other part of the country.) It differs in shape, size and quality from every other known variety. For descriptive circulars and general directions for garden culture, forming plantations and pruning, address,

WM. LAWTON,
New-Rochelle, N. Y., or No. 54 Wall-st.

N. B.—Plants will be furnished at a reduced rate to societies and clubs. 111—tfn42

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS.—The

undersigned, having long experience as Engineers, will pay attention to those branches of their profession connected with Agriculture, viz : Land Surveying and Mapping, the arrangement and construction of houses and farm buildings.—Draining and Irrigation in all their branches. Also, the adaptation of all machinery necessary for agricultural purposes, including steam engines, wind and water mills, water rams, force pumps, &c. Materials and machinery purchased on commission.

SHIPMAN & HAMMOND,
111—121n48 No. 63 Trinity Buildings. 111 Broadway, N. Y.

THOROUGH-BRED DEVON CATTLE, AND ESSEX PIGS, FOR SALE.

The subscriber now offers for sale a few superior Devon Heifers, bred by himself entirely from recently imported stock, and in calf by his last imported bull, "OMER PASHA," winner of the FIRST PRIZE, as yearling, at the Royal Show of England in 1855; as also a number of young Bulls and heifers, the get of his three imported Bulls "MEGUNTICOOK," "MAY-BOY," and "OMER PASHA," and out of imported Cows, or their progeny.

Also, constantly on hand, ESSEX PIGS, bred from the best imported stock.

For full particulars as to age, price, pedigree, &c., address,

C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
1246n108—119N9 Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane,

Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders. 8- 30

American Agriculturist.

(Established in 1842.)

A thorough-going, RELIABLE, and PRACTICAL Journal, devoted to the different departments of SOIL CULTURE—such as growing field CROPS; orchard and garden FRUITS; garden VEGETABLES and FLOWERS; trees, plants, and flowers for the LAWN or YARD; in-door and out-door work around the DWELLING; care of DOMESTIC ANIMALS, &c. &c.

☞ The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month .

A full CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS for the season is given every month.

Over FIVE HUNDRED plain, practical, instructive articles are given every year.

The Editors and Contributors are all practical, WORKING MEN.

TERMS — INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One copy one year	\$1 00
Six copies one year	5 00
Ten copies one year	8 00

And an extra copy to the Postmaster or other person making up a Club of Ten.

☞ In addition to the above rates : Postage to Canada 12 cents, to Europe 24 cents; Delivered in New-York City 12 cents. Postage anywhere in the United States and Territories must be paid by the subscriber, and is *only six cents a year, if paid quarterly in advance.*

Subscriptions can begin Jan. 1st, July 1st, or at other dates, if especially desired.

The paper is considered *paid for* wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 191 Water-st., New-York.

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year	\$3 00
Five copies of both papers one year	8 50
Ten copies of both papers one year	17 00

Printed by R. Cunnington, 191 Water-st.

SMITHSONIAN LIBRARIES
3 9088 01937 3836